

**Nenameseck Sportsmen's Club Inc.**  
**Established 1972**  
**Bylaws, Range Rules and Regulations**  
Voted and Approved February 2, 1982  
Amended, Voted and Approved November 8, 1988  
Amended, Voted and Approved January 24, 2002

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## **Article 1: Name of the Organization**

The name of the organization shall be Nenaseck Sportsmen's Club Inc. and shall be a non-profit corporation, organized under Chapter 180 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended.

## **Article 2: Location**

The location of the office of this club shall be Bacon Road, Palmer, Massachusetts.

## **Article 3: Purpose of the Organization**

The purpose of this organization is as follows: To carry out on a co-operative program for the protection, propagation and restoration of the forest, waters fish and game. To promote and establish more cordial relation between sportsmen and landowners. To formulate and urge wise legislation pertaining to the above. To assist the commissioner of the Dept. of Natural Resources and the Director of the Fish and Game and any other matters pertaining to sportsmen's interests and to promote sportsmen's safety.

## **Article 4: Membership**

### Section A: Responsibility

It shall be the responsibility of each member to maintain active membership

### Section B: Lifetime Membership

An Adult Member with five (5) or more years of continuous membership upon reaching the age of sixty-five (65) shall be granted a lifetime membership and be exempt from payment of dues.

**The Bylaw Review Committee recommends deleting Section B: Lifetime Membership entirely. The reason for this is due to the negative financial effect it will have because of our aging membership. Current Life members will be grandfathered.**

### Section C: Senior Citizen Membership

Any person who is sixty (60) years of age or older shall pay one half (1/2) of the standard adult membership. The applicant will also be responsible to pay the full initiation fee.

**The Bylaw Review Committee recommends changing Section C to the following: A member who has reached the age of 65 and been a member for at least one year contiguously prior is eligible for Senior Membership. A Senior member will have a reduction of dues to 75% of the current full member dues. The prior membership must be uninterrupted and at the regular membership rates. If the prior membership is interrupted then the one-year requirement is counted from the most recent accepted membership application.**

### Section D: Family Membership

Full time students may remain under family membership past 18 years of age not to exceed 24 years of age.

**The Bylaw Review Committee recommends defining the meaning and limits of what a Family is, for membership purposes, and recommends changing this section to the following: “Family members include the immediate household (sons and daughters under 18 except full time students not to exceed age 24 and ones spouse) and does not include grandchildren or other relatives. Grandchildren will require Junior Memberships.”**

## **Article 5: Adult Member Acceptance**

### Section A: Acceptance

The prospective member shall be accepted by a majority vote of the members present and voting at a regular meeting. Either the applicant or a member sponsor must bring payment and a signed application to a meeting for the applicant to be voted in. Those applicants wishing to use the outdoor facilities before attending a meeting to be voted in, or who are unable to come to a meeting and do not have a sponsor, must meet with a designated Contact Member who will accept the application, review the club rules with the applicant, and provide the card and keys.

**The Bylaw Review Committee due to insurance regulations recommends adding to this section: “The applicant, while able to use the outdoor facilities under the previous conditions, is not allowed to bring guests until after being formally voted in at a meeting.”**

### Section B: Notification of Acceptance

The prospective member shall pay to the Membership Chairman the initiation fee and membership dues in effect. The pro-offered membership will be withdrawn if the payment is not received within thirty (30) days. Upon receipt of the fees and dues, the Accepted Member shall be sent a Membership Card, copy of the Bylaws and Club Rules, list of Club Officers and Directors and a Calendar of Events. Members must pick up Keys, Key Card and Badges in person.

### Section C: Notification of Rejection

The Sponsor and Applicant shall be notified that the applicant has not been accepted to the membership under Article 5, Section A, of these bylaws.

## **Article 6: Responsibility**

The Adult Member shall expend effort annually to raise funds or save costs by: Participating in fund drives, work on an activity committee or perform a trade or professional service.

**The Bylaw Review Committee recommends adding the following: “In the case of extraordinary volunteerism, any non-monetary method of reimbursement will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors and will be decided in a Board Meeting with a quorum.”**

## **Article 7: Junior Membership**

### Section A: Eligibility

An applicant shall be less than eighteen (18) years of age and of good moral character and reputation.

### Section B: Acceptance

An applicant shall submit an Approved Application Form, be sponsored by an Adult Member and elected to Junior Membership by a verbal majority of the members present and voting at a regular meeting.

### Section C: Notification of Acceptance

A Junior Member shall be sent a Letter of Acceptance; Membership Card marked Junior Member, copy of the Bylaws and Club Rules, list of Club Officers and Directors and a Calendar of Events. Junior Members must pick up Keys, Key Card and Badges in person.”

### Section D: Notice of Rejection

The Sponsor and applicant shall be notified that the applicant has not been accepted under Article 7, Section B of these bylaws.

### Section E: Status

A Junior Member will not have voting rights but may serve on a committee and may use the clubs facilities under Adult Supervision.

## **Article 8: Military**

Any member who becomes full time active military service while a member in good standing shall be carried as a member until such time as they are discharged from active service. If a member is discharged from active service after the January meeting, his dues will not be due until the following April.

**The Bylaw Review Committee recommends correcting the dates in the second sentence of this section to correspond with our current membership year and to read: “If a member is discharged from active service after the April meeting, dues will not be due until the following April.”**

## **Article 9: Guests**

Guests will be allowed to use the facilities one (1) times per calendar year accompanied by a Club Member. On the second visit they will either join the club or they will not be able to use the facilities.

**The Bylaw Review Committee recommends listing the above as Section A: Regular Guest and adding a new section to this Article to read as follows: “Section B: Guest Membership. An active member may obtain a Guest membership for a visitor. The Guest membership is good for one week and will have a fee of \$10 paid to the**

Membership Chairperson who will issue a dated pass with the Guest and Sponsoring Members name on it. The Guest membership may be renewed for an additional week for an additional \$10 fee. The Guest may not use the facilities unless accompanied by the Sponsoring Member who will be fully responsible for the Guest.”

## **Article 10: Expulsion**

### Section A: Members

A complaint may be initiated against a member by presenting to the Board of Directors, a Formal Written Complaint signed by three (3) Adult members. The member being criticized shall be granted a Hearing by the Board of Directors. A majority of the Directors vote shall be required to present the complaint to a Partial Board, comprised of eleven (11) members chosen at random from the membership roll. No member shall be expelled or suspended without notice and opportunity to be heard.

### Section B: Removal of Officers

Officers may be removed with probable cause by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at a meeting called for that purpose. An Officer may be removed only after reasonable notice and an opportunity to be heard. An officer who is absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings, without explanation or cause, shall be considered as having resigned. An Officer who is absent from three (3) consecutive Board Meetings without any explanation of cause shall be considered as having resigned.

### Section C: Removal of Directors

Directors may be removed with probable cause by a vote of two-thirds of members present and voting at a meeting called for that purpose. A Director may be removed only after reasonable notice and an opportunity to be heard. A Director who is absent from three (3) consecutive Board Meetings, without explanation or cause, shall be considered as having resigned.

### Section D: Replacement of Officers and Directors

The members shall be notified that a resignation has taken place and an election will be held at the next regular meeting.

## **Article 11: Initiation Fee**

The initiation fee shall be voted on at each annual meeting for the ensuing year. Each person accepted to the membership will pay the initiation fee in effect at the time of acceptance. The initiation fee will be waived for applicants who have taken the clubs State Certified Firearm Safety Course.

The Bylaw Review Committee recommends deleting the last sentence in this Article to remove the initiation fee waiver for attending the clubs Firearm Course.

## **Article 12: Dues**

### Section A: Dues

Dues for all members shall be voted on at the annual meeting for the ensuing year. Each applicant shall pay the dues in effect at that time.

### Section B: Dues Control

Term of membership shall be from April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>. Members failing to pay their dues by April Meeting of each year will forfeit their membership.

Subsequent application for renewal shall be handled as a new applicant, unless in the opinion of the Board of Directors and the Membership Committee, extenuating circumstances warrant membership renewal.

### Section C: Late Application

Any application received after November Meeting will be charged one-half (1/2) the annual rate plus initiation fee.

## **Article 13: Meetings**

### Section A: Regular Meeting

Regular Meetings shall be held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

### Section B: Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting shall be held on the first Tuesday of February at 7:00 P.M. At this meeting Dues, Initiation Fees, Nominations and Changes to Rules and Regulations should be addressed.

### Section C: Special Meetings

The President or three (3) members of the Board of Directors may call a Special Meeting. Ten (10) members stating in writing the nature of business may request the President to call a Special Meeting. Notice shall be sent to every member at least seven (7) days before the meeting stating the time, place and reason. No business other than that stated in the notice shall be transacted.

### Section D: Quorum

A quorum shall consist of at least six (6) Adult Members. A meeting shall continue even though a quorum ceases to exist.

### Section E: Meeting Location

All Regular and Special Meetings will be held at Nenameseck Sportsmen's Club, Bacon Road, Palmer, MA.

### Section F: Order of Business at a Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order
2. Introduction of Guests

3. Reading of minutes of previous meeting
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Action on Membership Applications
6. Correspondence and Communications
7. Reports of Officers, Delegates and Directors
8. Report of Active Committees
9. Unfinished Business
10. New Business
11. Good of the Club
12. Open for Discussion Period
13. Motion for Adjournment

#### Section G: Procedure

A proposal to be presented for consideration by the membership shall have a discussion period until each member present, who wishes, shall have made a statement on the subject of not more than two (2) minutes duration and a single rebuttal of not more than two (2) minutes. Each Speaker shall address the President and be recognized before being allowed the floor. When no further discussion is desirable or allowable, the President will accept a Motion and a vote will be taken. Action on a motion shall be determined by a majority vote of the members present and voting. The 1915 Edition of Roberts Rules of Order Revised shall resolve parliamentary procedure, not covered by these by- laws.

### **Article 14: Elections**

#### Section A: Officers and Directors

A President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and four (4) Board of Directors shall be nominated at the annual meeting. These Officers and Directors shall comprise the Board of Directors.

#### Section B: Election Procedure

Officers shall be elected by a majority vote by ballot by members in good standing at the March meeting of the club. They shall hold office from April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>. This shall include all appointments. Only official ballots approved by the Board of Directors shall be counted at the election of Officers. The election of Officers shall be done by two (2) ballots. The first (1<sup>st</sup>) ballot to be for the offices of President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. The second (2<sup>nd</sup>) ballot will be for the Board of Directors. A list of all eligible members less the above named elected Officers shall be presented to each member. From this list four (4) shall be voted for.

#### Section C: Requirements

1. Members must be in good standing
2. Must have attended seven (7) out of twelve (12) meetings.
3. Must sign register for all meetings attended.

4. Nominees for elective office must have been a member for at least twelve (12) consecutive months before being eligible to run for office.
5. In the event there are not enough eligible candidates for office, an ineligible candidate may be nominated.

## **Article 15: Officers and Directors**

### Section A: Meetings

Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be legal when a quorum is present. The Secretary shall call a meeting at the request of the President, or three (3) Directors, notifying each Officer and Director stating the time, place and reason.

### Section B: Quorum

A quorum shall consist of at least five (5) Officers or Directors. A meeting will continue even though a quorum ceases to exist.

## **Article 16: Duties of Officers**

### Section A: President

The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and Directors and subject to the authorization of the Directors shall; Sign and execute all contracts in the name of the club, act as a general manager of the facilities, be spokesman of the club and have accounts audited on an annual basis and be ex-officio of all regular and special committees. He shall appoint all committee chairpersons.

### Section B: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President, to perform duties when the President is incapacitated.

### Section C: 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President shall maintain a list of members and bill Membership Dues. In the event the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President is unavailable or incapacitated the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President shall perform their duties.”

### Section D: Treasurer

The Treasurer on the authorization of the Board of Directors and at the direction of the President, shall have custody of all funds and securities, sign all checks, drafts and orders for the payment of money, maintain detailed reports of items by receipts and expenditures, present a report at monthly meetings, present a yearly report at the April meeting and exhibit the books and accounts upon request of any member. He shall be bonded at the cost of the club.

### Section E: Secretary

The Secretary on the authorization of the Board of Directors and at the direction of the President, shall keep the minutes of regular, special and Directors meetings; sign and execute all contracts in the name of the club. All minutes and

correspondence pertaining to the club are to be kept in the files located in the clubhouse. The Secretary on the authorization of the Board of Directors and at the direction of the President shall; attend to assigned correspondence and communications; maintain a list of members and attend to the serving of all notices.

**Section F: Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors shall manage the club consistent with the interests of the members, voted actions of the members, these bylaws and the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

**Section G: Vacated Offices**

Any Officer or Committee Chairperson of the club who has vacated their position or has been removed for whatever reason shall return all records and or funds of the clubs to any member of the Board of Directors within three (3) days of such a vacancy or removal. If said Officer is unable to return the records or funds, he shall direct an agent to do so.

**Article 17: Committees**

**Section A: Activity Committee**

The President shall select the Chairman of each Activity Committee and the Chairman shall select the members of the Committee.

**Section B: Standing Committees**

The President shall select the Chairman of each Standing Committee and the Chairman shall select the members of the committee.

**Section C: Regulations**

Each Committee shall make their own regulations, subject to approval by the board of directors.

**Article 18: By-law Amendments**

**Section A: Amendments**

These By-laws may be amended as follows; all changes shall be by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting. Any member can request a By-law change. The members at a regular meeting must consider the relative merit of the proposed change and if in agreement direct the President to select a Chairman and a By-law Committee, composed of nine (9) adult members, to study the proposed and related changes and designate the time of the next special meeting for a final vote. If a vote of acceptance is not obtained another vote must be taken to return the changes to the By-law Committee for further study and rewording or consider the existing by-laws satisfactory.

**Section B: Notification**

Members are to be notified at least fourteen (14) days in advance of a Special Meeting for By-law Changes.

Section C: Interpretation

The Board of Directors shall interpret the By-laws.

**Article 19: Dissolution of the Corporation**

Section A: Conditions

The members of this club may dissolve and close the affairs of this club subject to the following procedures and conditions; A Special Meeting MUST be called by five (5) board members or thirty (30) members in writing stating the reasons for such dissolution. Such notice shall be presented to the Secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to such a meeting. The Secretary shall send copies of said notices to all members at least twenty-one (21) days prior to such meeting.

Section B: Vote

In order to dissolve this corporation a two-thirds vote of all members in good standing shall be required.

Section C: Dissolution

In the event that dissolution is so voted, no assets of the corporation, financial or otherwise, shall insure to the benefit of any member of the corporation, and all assets shall by vote be distributed to the other organizations of like purposes.

Section D: Land

All land properties owned by the club, upon dissolution, shall be turned over to Palmer Conservation Commission.

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**Indoor & Outdoor Firearms Range Rules**

1. Club Members and Guests only. Members must have membership and range certification cards in their possession. Guests may be brought a maximum of one time per calendar year before they join.
2. No minors under 18 years of age unless accompanied by an adult.
3. Absolutely No Alcoholic Beverages allowed while shooting.  
[The Bylaw Review Committee recommends changing the above rule to read: "No Alcoholic Beverages allowed on Club grounds."](#)
4. Shooters are required to clean up after themselves. Remove All shooting materials and dispose of them properly.
5. Any Damages to club property must be reported to a club officer immediately.
6. Eye Protection for shooters is Mandatory!

## **Indoor Range**

1. All Pistol calibers up to and including 44 Magnum, lead bullets only.  
**[The Bylaw Review Committee recommends updating this rule to read: "All standard Pistol calibers allowed except S&W 460 and 500"](#)**
2. No jacketed or plated bullets of any kind other than 22 caliber rimfire allowed.  
**[The Bylaw Review Committee recommends deleting rule 2.](#)**
3. No black powder allowed.
4. No rifle larger than 22LR allowed.
5. Gunners will mount their target fully downrange in the target holders or overhead clips and adjust their desired shooting distance by moving back to their desired distance, absolutely no shooting at the archery bales.
6. Indoor range open 24 hours everyday except during posted club events or archery times.
7. Gunners – Monday, Wednesday, Friday all day and Sundays 5:00 PM to 12 Midnight.
8. Archers – Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday all day and Sunday 12:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
9. Gunners may use the range during Archery times but must relinquish range to Archers upon request.  
**[The Bylaw Review Committee recommends deleting rules 7, 8 and 9 above referencing sharing times, as these will no longer be an issue with the new indoor range.](#)**
10. Range will be closed during scheduled events.
11. No full auto weapons to be used indoors.

## **Outdoor Range**

1. No shooting at wood posts, silhouette rails, upright poles and shooting benches.
2. Paper targets only, no bottles or cans.
3. Only one shooting line on range. No one will shoot halfway up the range, if a shorter distance is desired, move target toward the shooting line.
4. Shooting hours Sunrise to Sunset.

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## **Rules of the Outdoor Archery Range**

1. Club members and Guests only.
2. Field point only, no broadheads even in a quiver allowed.
3. No glass bottles allowed to be carried on archery course at any time.
4. No Alcoholic Beverages Allowed on course.  
**[The Bylaw Review Committee recommends changing rule 4 to read: "No Alcoholic Beverages Allowed on Club grounds.](#)**
5. No children under 12 unless accompanied by an adult.
6. Membership card and badge required when using the archery range.
7. Archery range will be closed to members during scheduled events.
8. Shooting hour's sunrise to sunset.

## **Indoor Archery Range Rules**

1. Club members and guests only
2. Paper and 3D targets only.
3. No Broadheads
4. No Crossbows
5. Membership cards badges required when using the archery range.
6. Violations of these rules will bring Disciplinary Action
7. Indoor Archery range will be closed during scheduled events.
8. Archers may use the range during Gunner times but must relinquish range to Gunners upon request.

**The Bylaw Review Committee recommends deleting rule 8 due to the new range**

## **General Rules**

Violations of the range rules will bring disciplinary action up to and including loss of membership.

Scheduled closing of ranges will be posted 7 days in advance.

All special club functions have precedence over all of the above.

**The Bylaw Review Committee recommends adding: “No Smoking Allowed in Club Buildings”**