

# BORDER VIGILANTES

A SINGLE ACTION SHOOTING SOCIETY (SASS) AFFILIATED CLUB

## \*\*\***BY LAWS**\*\*\*

### SECTION I

#### NAME:

The name of this organization shall be **BORDER VIGILANTES, INC.**

### SECTION II

#### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this organization shall be encouragement of organized rifle, pistol and shotgun Single Action Shooting Society style competition, using the weaponry that was available prior to 1900 or replicas thereof.

Further, while engaging in this sport, competitors are expected to “dress the part” ie., all hats, boots, leather gear and other costume accoutrements as described in the SASS handbook.

It is the purpose to recreate and enjoy the days of the “Old West”, while still enjoying our marksmanship sport.

### SECTION III

#### LOGO:

The logo and badge of the Border Vigilantes shall be:



an antique Brass Crescent (for the City of New Orleans), with the words **BORDER VIGILANTES**, in all capital letters across the top. The crescent shall be open at the bottom. There shall be a blue, five pointed star in the center of the crescent with the single point up. This star represents the single star on the blue flag of the independent state of Louisiana after succession.

### SECTION IV

#### MEMBERSHIP:

Membership in the Border Vigilantes shall be based upon a sincere and demonstrable desire to further the ideals and traditions of the “Old West”

(The American West from 1865 thru 1899), and to promote the objectives of the Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) and the National Rifle Association (NRA). New members of the Border Vigilantes are required to become SASS members within three (3) months of joining.

Membership however, in the NRA is not contingent on membership in the Border Vigilantes, but it is strongly recommended.

## SECTION V

### DUES:

These dues and initiation fee are set by the Vigilance Committee and can be changed by the Vigilance committee at any time.

Any member of the organization whose dues are in arrears by thirty days may be ineligible to vote or to enjoy the privileges of or benefits offered by the organization. Any member of the organization whose dues are in arrears by ninety days may be dropped from the membership roster and will have to reapply for membership. This determination shall be at the discretion of the Vigilance Committee.

## SECTION VI

### OFFICERS:

The governing body of the Border Vigilantes shall be known as the Vigilance Committee.

The officers of this organization will be elected to two year terms of office and may be re-elected as many times as desired. The Vigilance Committee shall be comprised of the following officers; President, Vice President, Secretary and/or Treasurer, and Territorial Governor (may be a stand alone position or held in conjunction with one of the Executive board positions) and the members elected at-large. There shall also be a minimum of four (4) but, no greater than five (5) board members at large. The duties of these officers shall be those described herein and/or those directed by the Executive Committee.

**The Vigilance Committee shall have general supervision and control of all activities of the organization.**

Meetings of the Vigilance Committee shall be held regularly at such time and place as the Committee determines. Special meetings may be held at any time on the call of the President or on demand in writing, to the Secretary, by three (3) members of the Committee.

A simple majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

The resignation of any officer must be accepted by the remaining members of the Vigilance Committee.

Any vacancy in the Vigilance Committee, other than the President, shall be filled by a special election of the Vigilance Committee within a reasonable amount of time. The vacancy of the President shall be filled by the Vice President, and his office shall be filled by special election of the Vigilance Committee. All special election of officers shall be for the remaining term of office, and will be open to election upon the regular meeting for the election of officers in September of odd numbered years.

### OFFICER DESCRIPTIONS

#### President

- \*Oversee the operations of the club as a whole.
- \*Attend all main functions of the club (i.e. monthly matches, annual match, board meetings, general membership meetings, workdays, special events, etc.)
- \*Make sure that board meetings and membership meetings are scheduled as required.
- \*Serve as Match Director at monthly and annual matches.  
Additionally, serve as "Master of Ceremonies."
- \*Strive to have matches start in a timely manner.
- \*Act as a peacemaker within the club.
- \*Provide a tie-breaker vote at board and membership meetings, as required.
- \*Prepare regular articles for the [web site](#) newsletter ([Noose News](#)).
- \*Shall be an exofficio member of all committees of the organization.
- \*[Teach the SASS Range Officer 1 course.](#)
- \*[Receive new member notification from SASS and contact prospective members.](#)
- \*[See that the club web site is updated.](#)
- \*[Arrange special events such as Gun Shows, Annual Match.](#)

## Vice-President

- \*Be prepared to fulfill any and/or **all of the above duties** of the President in his/her absence and such other duties as directed by the President.

## Secretary

- \*Record minutes for meetings.
- \*Handle all correspondence for club business and correspondence within the club to members and to prospective members.
- \*Maintain a current email list and communicate club information as needed.
- \*Have use of a laptop computer to facilitate registration and data entry of scores at monthly and annual matches.
- \*Update the membership Directory monthly and update email data base monthly.
- \*See that New Members Packets are updated and distributed.
- \*Maintain adequate supply of club forms for normal operation of club business and monthly matches.
- \*Produce Border Vigilantes information flyer for prospective members.
- \*Send club information to all prospective members requesting information concerning the Border Vigilantes and SASS.
- \*Serve as editor of the newsletter.
- \*Update database in Scorecard with new shooter information.

## Treasurer

- \*Take in all receipts, categorize and record where, why and from whom the money came.
- \*Pay all bills in a timely manner and categorize the disbursement as to where it went and what type of expenses it was.
- \***Keep accurate records of the organization's financial transactions.**
- \*Prepare reports for the Vigilance Committee and the club membership summarizing financial transactions **as may be requested by the Vigilance Committee or President.**  
Reports must be in a form that is clear and understandable.

## Territorial Governor

- \*Must be a SASS Life Member.
- \*Functions as liaison between the club(s) and SASS.
- \*Brings SASS spirit to the clubs (provides direction regarding SASS philosophy and sees that SASS by-laws and safety rules are adhered to.)
- \*Attends the Annual Governors' Meeting (may not be compensated by the club treasure).
- \*Represents the club at the various Governors' meetings at regional, national and EOT matches (not compensated by the club treasury).
- \*Completes the Range Officer I and II classes. Must be an RO II.
- \*Teaches the Range Officer I course to home club members, as well as other area clubs (requires travel – may not be compensated).
- \*Applies to become one of the regional training officers for the Range Officer II course (requires travel – not compensated.)
- \*Sits on the appeals committee at annual and regional matches.
- \*Chairs one or more committees for the local club.

- \*Be available to members and new shooters interested in the spirit of cowboy action shooting to answer questions, research questions regarding SASS rulings and encourage persons interested in CAS to join SASS and the Border Vigilantes.
- \*Acts as the arbiter of disagreements regarding SASS rules, including match appeals.
- \*Functions as the Range Master for all club matches, including coordinating the stages for monthly and annual matches for safety, application, and stage design. Coordinates the set-up of the stages for all matches.

#### Board Member at Large

- \*Attends all board meetings, in addition to membership meetings.
- \*Provides advice and guidance concerning the operation club business..
- \*Serves as a liaison between the membership and the Vigilance Committee.
- \*May also serve as chairperson of one of the various committees.

Board members must attend at least (4) four out of (6) six consecutive board meetings/memberships meetings.

Failure to do so may result in replacement of board member by the Vigilance Committee.

#### OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS:

Vigilance Committee members of the organization must be a club member one year prior to being elected.

President and Territorial Governor must have served on the Vigilance Committee prior to being elected to office.

President and Territorial Governor must be RO II qualified.

Territorial Governor must be a life member.

### SECTION VII

#### MEETING:

The regular quarterly business meetings of the organization for the transaction of ordinary business and social discourse shall be held at such times and places as may be fixed by the Vigilance Committee.

The **bi-annual meeting** for the election of officers shall be held in **February** of odd numbered years at such time and place as may be fixed by the Vigilance Committee. If the annual meeting does not take place at the time fixed, it shall be held at a reasonable time thereafter and the officers shall hold office until their successors have been elected.

**Nominations for the officers shall open on November 1<sup>st</sup> and close on December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Special meeting may be held at any time upon the call of the President or upon the call of the Vigilance Committee, or upon demand, in writing, stating the object of the proposed meeting, and signed by not less than twenty percent (20%) of the members entitled to vote. Notice of the time, place and object of any special meeting shall be given to all officers and members in good standing in writing by the United States mail or

E-mail not less than fifteen days prior to the date fixed for the holding of the meeting. The place of the meeting shall be fixed by the Vigilance Committee.

A minimum of one third (1/3) of the members entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the general membership.

## SECTION VIII

### VOTING:

- \* Only members are allowed to vote on issues of the Border Vigilantes.
- \* Voting will normally be done verbally. However, if any voting member requests a roll call vote, or secret ballot on any issue, the members presiding shall immediately honor the request.
- \* The member presiding over any meeting will NOT vote on any issue unless the vote is tied or deadlocked.
- \* Each voting member shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote, to be cast in person at the meeting of the general membership, Vigilance Committee or any committee of the Border Vigilantes.
- \* Except as otherwise provided by these By-Laws, or by action of the members assembled, a majority of the votes cast by members eligible to vote shall suffice for approval and adoption of all motions, resolutions and other matters at all general meetings of the members, the Vigilance Committee or committees of the Border Vigilantes.
- \* There shall be no proxy or absentee voting in the conduct of business of the Border Vigilantes.

## SECTION IX

### REMOVAL FROM MEMBERSHIP:

**OFFICERS:** Any officer may be removed by a two third (2/3) vote of the membership in good standing present at any special meeting called for the said purpose of removing an officer from office. No vote on suspension or removal shall be taken unless at least fifteen (15) days notice in writing shall have been given to the officer of the reason for his/her removal, and of the time and place of the special meeting at which such vote on his/her removal is to be taken. At such special meetings, the officer shall be given a full hearing.

**MEMBERS:** Any member may be suspended or expelled from the organization for any cause deemed sufficient by two thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Vigilance Committee. At such meeting the member under charges will be accorded a full hearing.

Charges against any officer or member may be presented by any member in good standing. Such charges shall be presented in writing, clearly stating the facts, and accompanied by all affidavits and/or exhibits which are to be used to support charges stated. Such charges shall be filed with the Secretary, who will immediately notify the President. The President will then call a meeting of the Vigilance Committee to hear the charges. The Secretary will give at least fifteen (15) days notice of the meeting to each member of the Vigilance Committee and to the accuser and to the accused. Such notice shall be in writing and include supporting affidavits and exhibits.

Any member suspended or expelled by the Vigilance Committee may appeal to the full membership of the organization. Such appeal shall be made in writing to the Secretary, who shall notify the President. The President shall call a special meeting of the organization for the purpose of acting on the appeal. The Secretary shall give at least fifteen (15) days notice in writing to all members of the organization in good standing, stating the date, time, location, and reason for such meeting. At the full meeting of the organization, the Secretary will read the original charges, the supporting affidavits, and will read or display the accompanying exhibits, and shall read the minutes of the special meeting of the Vigilance Committee at which the charges were heard and the actions taken by the Vigilance Committee. A full hearing shall be given the accuser and the accused. A vote shall be taken of the members in good standing present. A two third (2/3) majority shall be required to confirm the actions of the Vigilance Committee.

All notices required may be given via E-Mail properly addressed.

## **SECTION X**

### **PARLIMENTARY AUTHORITY:**

#### **Section 1: Robert's Rules of Order**

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Revised shall be the authority in all matters of procedure to which they are applicable and which they are not inconsistent with the By-Laws of the Border Vigilantes or such special rules as may be authorized.

#### **Section 2: Special Rules**

- a. Special rules of order may be adopted by a 2/3 vote of the Vigilance Committee, provided that previous notice of the special rule(s) of order is given or previously published via e-mail, flier, website, or in the newsletter.
- b. No previous notice is required if the special rule(s) of order apply to a single session.

## **SECTION XI**

### **COMMITTEES:**

Special Ad-Hoc committees may be established by the President at any time and for any purpose pertaining to the interests of the Border Vigilantes. The President shall determine the size, duties, and duration of the duties and chairperson the committee.

#### **General Committee Provisions**

- a. Each committee shall provide the Treasurer the information necessary to prepare the annual budget.
- b. Committees shall not enter into verbal or written contracts.
- c. Committees shall hire no employees.
- d. Committees shall have no authority to bind the corporation.
- e. Committees shall not maintain bank accounts or checking accounts without expressed consent of the Vigilance Committee.

## **SECTION XII**

### **BUDGET:**

The Vigilance Committee shall adopt a budget for each calendar or fiscal year. The budget shall detail the estimated income of the Border Vigilantes from all sources and the estimated expenses for the year. The budget shall be presented to the membership at the first meeting after the annual meeting and published in the newsletter.

## **SECTION XIII**

### **FISCAL YEAR:**

The fiscal year of the Border Vigilantes shall be January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **SECTION XIV**

### **LIFE MEMBERSHIPS:**

There will be ten nonrefundable life memberships to the Border Vigilantes at any one time, for a life membership fee equal to ten times the amount of the regular annual dues. The three conditions for termination of life membership are: (1) death of the individual, (2) resignation of membership, or (3) loss of membership due to violation of club rules.

## SECTION XV

### ELECTIONS:

#### Section 1: Nominating Committee

a. The Nominating committee shall consist of the immediate past President as chairman, the President and either one (1) or three (3) members of the corporation as appointed by the President. The committee shall be appointed and meet, every two (2) years, not later than **November** prior to January of an odd numbered year.

b. The nominating committee shall deliver to the Vigilance Committee the list of their recommendations for officers not later **January 1st**.

**Nominations for the officers shall open on November 1<sup>st</sup> and close on December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

c. The name and address of each person being nominated by the committee and approved by the Vigilance Committee shall be communicated to all members not less than thirty (30) days prior to the annual **voting** meeting. The communication shall be via the organizations official newsletter, e-mail, or special mailings to all members.

#### Section 2: Voting Procedure

a. The election of officers and shall be held at the annual **voting** meeting of the corporation every two (2) years on odd number years **at the first February monthly match**.

b. Voting shall be by secret ballot.

c. **There shall be no proxy or absentee voting in the officers or Vigilance Committee members.**

d. Each person entitled to vote at meetings of the membership of the corporation shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote for each officer to be elected.

e. A simple majority of the voting power present at the annual meeting shall be sufficient to elect an officer.

f. The newly elected officers will automatically become the Vigilance Committee.

## SECTION XVI

### DISSOLUTION:

Upon dissolution of the organization, any moneys remaining in the treasury shall be donated to a non-profit organization or charity, **AFTER** all expenses of the organization are satisfied. The organization to receive these moneys shall be nominated and voted upon at an Vigilance Committee meeting held prior to the dissolution.

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

## SECTION XVII

### AMENDMENTS:

#### Section 1:

a. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular general membership meeting of the organization by a 2/3 majority vote of a quorum present and voting.

b. Proposed amendments must be presented to the membership at the previous general membership meeting or in writing via e-mail, flier, website, or in the newsletter prior to the voting meeting.

#### Section 2:

a. In the event of any emergency, these By-Laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the Vigilance Committee.

b. Special notice will be given to each member of such action prior to the next regular general membership meeting.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **REIMBURSEMENT OF PRIVATE FUNDS:**

It shall be incumbent upon this organization to reimburse funds expended by members for the use of the organization. These debts shall be paid before any other debt or expense and/or as arranged by the member owed the funds. For expenditure to be a valid debt, it must be approved by the Executive Committee.

## **AMENDMENT I**

### **REINBURSABLE EXPENSES**

Reimbursable expenses must be pre-approved in writing and signed by two thirds (2/3rds) of the officer board members. The officer board members can approve reimbursement of an expense up to \$400.00. An expense greater than \$400.00 requires general membership approval.

## **AMENDMENT II**

### **DONATIONS**

All donations made to the Border Vigilantes, be it monetary, materials, targets, props, etc become the property of the Border Vigilantes.