

CONSTITUTION OF THE VINTAGE ARMS ASSOCIATION (RIFLE & PISTOL CLUB)

1. The Association shall be known as the Vintage Arms Association (Rifle and Pistol Club).
2. The Objects of the Association are to foster an interest in vintage firearms and support the possession and use of vintage and modern firearms whether for competition or practice in accordance with Home Office conditions and approval by encouraging;
a) the attainment of skill in the use of such weapons so that members will be better able to serve their country in time of peril, by providing facilities for range practice and organising suitable competitions,
b) the preservation and collecting of such weapons by members, and
c) an exchange of information on the construction, history and use of various weapons through the periodical newsletter or Journal
3. A vintage firearm is any smallarm which was in production or experimental before the end of the year 1945 AD, or any design variation of such a smallarm in which no improvement in accuracy has been effected by the design change. Accurate reproductions of an original are acceptable. The Range Officer at any shoot organised by the Association shall have the power to refuse permission to use any weapon considered unsuitable. The Competition Rules of the Association shall define the type of firearm for which each competition is intended, and weapons used in such competitions must have original sights or sights deemed by the Range Officer to be in the spirit of the competition.
4. The governing (or Executive) Committee of the Association shall comprise the Honorary Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer (who are the Trustees of the Association), the Membership Records Secretary the Range Secretaries, the Competitions Secretary and the Editor of the Association Journal. Any five of the Committee, one of whom must be a Trustee, shall form a quorum. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members as they think fit. New Officers elected at the Annual General Meeting shall begin their duties from the 1st January following for the whole year. The Committee shall ensure that all range meetings, procedures and membership schemes are operated in accordance with the prevailing Home Office Conditions for Approved Clubs, and that proper minutes and current accounts are presented at each of their meetings.
5. The Annual General Meeting of all Members shall take place not later than 31st Oct. each year. Officers and Committee shall be elected by the Membership, and the previous year's audited accounts for the period ending 31st March, shall be presented.
6. By order of the Committee, or on receipt of a request signed by at least ten Members, the Secretary shall call a Special General Meeting. Each Member of the Association shall have at least seven days notice thereof and of the purpose for which the meeting is called.
7. The Association may be affiliated to any body that the Committee deem desirable.
8. The Association shall operate a suitable membership scheme in accordance with Home Office guidelines for Approved Clubs as defined in the Association's Membership Guidance.
9. The fees for Members and Visitors to the ranges used by the Association shall be fixed by the Committee and will be published in the Primer.
10. Any new competition must be approved by the Committee before being inaugurated.
11. The Committee shall have the absolute right to refuse any application for Membership, or renewal of Membership, and shall have the power to terminate the membership of any person for due cause. Notice of and reasons for termination shall be given in writing. Any Member shall have the right of appeal at the next Committee meeting.
12. The Committee shall be able, should it consider it desirable, to invite a suitable person to take office as President of the Association after being approved by the AGM or SGM.
13. In the event of the Association ceasing activities, all assets will be realised, and the monies thus acquired disposed of as agreed at a Special General Meeting called in accordance with clause 6.
14. This Constitution shall be altered only by achieving a two-thirds majority vote of all members present at an Annual General or Special General Meeting, such amendments coming into force immediately. Motions amending the Constitution shall be received by the Secretary in due time to allow their notification to Members before the meeting.