

Northern Illinois Outlaws

Founded November 2004

Official Bylaws

11/21/04 (Revised 2/11/06)

02/11/06 (Revised 04/24/13)

04/24/13 (Revised 03/01/25)

03/01/25 (Revised 02/21/26)

Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Northern Illinois Outlaws Inc. an affiliate member of the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association (CMSA). We endorse all CMSA functions.

Article II. Objective

The purpose of this club shall be to participate in the sport of cowboy mounted shooting, encourage safe handling of firearms and to help educate all individuals in all aspects of this sport including good horsemanship. We will abide by the rules set forth by the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Associations rulebook. We will promote good sportsmanship, and will provide a social climate conducive to riding, camping and events where the members dress and conduct themselves in a fashion that promotes our western heritage. The club officers will follow the guidelines set forth in the following articles, and shall administer the affairs of this club.

Article III. Membership

Anyone may become a member upon submission of completed application and payment of dues. All NIO memberships shall run Start of Calendar Year to End of Calendar Year, and shall not be prorated.

(A) Individual Member: May vote at club meetings and run for officer or board positions. May participate in all shooting and non-shooting activities. Individual members are eligible for the titles of Northern Illinois Men's Champion, Lady's Champion, Rifle Champion and Shotgun.

Champion based on CMSA points. Move up Buckles will be awarded to individual member upon move ups that are received only from the highest level attained in CMSA.

(B) Family Member: May include immediate and extended family members, at Board discretion, with a maximum of 6 people (All benefits of Individual members). Each family membership shall have up to two adult votes. Family memberships shall be on a calendar year basis only, not prorated.

Example of a board discretion family: S/O and dating/ serious relationship would be accepted but two friends just living together are not

Must be declared at time of signing up, cannot add later.

(C) Associate Member: May not shoot at any non CMSA events, but may ride in non-shooting activities and receive newsletters. May not vote or run for office

(D) Reciprocal Member: Any member in good standing with CMSA will be permitted to participate in any Northern Illinois Outlaw activities, including practice shoots, cookouts, camping, banquets and any other club activity. Excludes NIO member specific awards: IE Silver bullets, end of year buckles, move-up buckles.

(E) Refusal of Membership: Northern Illinois Outlaws reserves the right to refuse an application for the membership to any person who has demonstrated undesirable characteristics, unsportsmanlike conduct, and would not make a good representative of Northern Illinois Outlaws or cowboy mounted shooting in general. The refused applicant can appeal the refusal for membership before the Northern Illinois Outlaws Board of Directors by submitting a written appeal which will call for a meeting of the Board. The applicant must then appear before a quorum of directors to answer any question given to him/her and provide verbal explanations. The Board of Directors will then have the right to discuss among themselves before rendering their final decision. The decision will be announced within 24 hours of that meeting.

(F) Suspension and/or Expulsion of Members: Club officers by a majority vote have the right to suspend or expel any member that have through his or her actions:

- 1) Has caused or has the potential to cause personal injury to themselves, another person, property or livestock.
- 2) Has shown their actions to appear to be of undesirable character.
- 3) Has conducted themselves in an unbecoming manner of Northern Illinois Outlaws.
- 4) Has mistreated or been abusive to their horse in any inhumane fashion.
- 5) Has acted in an unsafe manner in the handling of their firearms.
- 6) Demonstrated unsportsmanlike conduct.

#### Article IV. Meetings

(A) Regular Meetings: The regular business meetings of the club for the transaction of normal business shall be held monthly as required at a time determined by the President.

(B) Annual meeting: The annual meeting of the club shall be held at the annual banquet.

#### Article V. Officers & Directors (Executive Committee)

(A) The board shall have at least 7 directors or an odd number greater than 7. The nominations for directors shall be accepted up until the time of the vote. The directors shall be elected by a majority

vote of the members entitled to vote. The term of office for directors shall be two years. Terms shall be staggered, the majority expiring in odd years and the remaining directors expiring in even years. The newly elected directors shall take office January 1st following the election.

(B) The officers of this club shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The existing Executive committee shall elect the officers by majority vote at an executive committee meeting following the annual meeting. The new officers shall be chosen from the ranks of the newly elected board. They shall hold office for one-year term or until their successor is elected. The newly elected officers shall take office January 1st following the election.

(C) The officers and the directors constitute the Executive committee.

(D) The Executive Committee shall have general supervision and control of all the activities of the club.

(E) Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at such time and place as the President may determine including meetings via email. Meetings may be held at any time on the request of two members of the Committee in writing to the Secretary.

(F) A majority of the members of the Executive Committee, which shall include four officers, constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee. At all executive meetings the Secretary, or a substitute, shall keep minutes and deliver to the members of the executive committee.

(G) A vacancy in the Executive Committee may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Committee. However, if more than one vacancy exists; new members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the next regular or special club meeting.

(H) A majority vote is required to accept the resignation of a member of the Executive Committee. Failure to attend three Committee meetings within 12 months will be considered a request to resign.

(I) All directors and officers must be individual or family members in good standing with dues fully paid.

## Article VI. Duties of Officers

(A) President: The President shall preside at meetings of the club and of the Executive Committee. The President shall be a member ex-officio of all regular and special committees, and shall perform all such other duties as usually pertain to this office. The President shall have the custody of the books and papers of the club, except the Treasurer's books of accounts.

(B) Vice President: The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence or at the request of the President.

(C) Secretary: The Secretary shall conduct all official correspondence pertaining to the proper preparation and forwarding of all reports required of the club by affiliated organizations. The secretary shall file all necessary reports required by the State and Federal government. The secretary shall notify all members of the Executive Committee of meetings. The Secretary shall keep a true record of all the meetings of the club.

(D) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the club and place the same in such bank or banks as may be approved by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall keep an

accurate account of all transactions and render a detailed report with vouchers at all meetings of the Executive Committee. A detailed annual report will be made available to the Executive on January 31st. The Treasure shall be responsible for re-affiliating the club annually with organizations approved by the Executive Committee.

(E) Directors: They shall assist and oversee club activities, chair committees, and assist the Officers of the club in other duties as requested.

#### Article VII. Dues

(A) The amount of dues is set by the Executive committee.

(B) No member of the club in arrears shall be eligible to vote or enjoy the privileges and benefits offered by the club.

#### Article VIII. Suspension or Expulsion

(A) Any member of the Executive Committee may be removed by a two thirds vote of members in good standing present at any meeting. No vote of suspension or removal may be taken unless at least fifteen days notice in writing, from the Executive committee shall have been given. This notice shall inform the accused of the reasons for charges. At such meeting the accused shall be given a full hearing.

(B) Any member may be suspended or expelled from the club for any action deemed sufficient by the Executive Committee. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the members of the Executive Committee is required. No vote on expulsion or suspension may be taken unless at least fifteen days notice in writing has been given to the accused, stating the reason for suspension or expulsion, and the time and place of the meeting of the Executive Committee at which such hearing will be considered.

(C) Charges against any member of the Executive Committee or any club member may be brought forth by any member in good standing. They shall be in writing, clearly stating the facts and 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 call a special meeting of all members of the Executive Committee, the accuser and the accused.

(D) Any member suspended or expelled by the Executive Committee may appeal to the full membership of the club at the next regular meeting. At this meeting of the club, the Secretary will present the evidence and will read the minutes of the special meeting of the Executive Committee at which the charges were heard and action taken. A full hearing will be given to the accuser and accused. A vote will be taken by secret ballot of the members in good standing present and a two thirds vote shall be required to reverse the action of the Executive Committee.

#### Article IX. Match Rules

Competitions held by the club will be governed by the rules and regulations of the Cowboy

Mounted Shooting Association.

#### Article X. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of the Robert's Rules of Order shall guide the club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these by laws and any special rules of order the club may adopt.

#### Article XI. Amendments

Proposed amendments to these by-laws may be introduced by the Executive Committee or by any member in good standing. They must be voted upon by the club membership. A copy of the proposed amendment must have been provided to all voting members at least 30 days prior to the vote. A vote of the members in good standing is required to pass the amendment.

#### Article XII. Dissolution

In the event this club is dissolved, all property shall be sold and all assets remaining after settlement of all outstanding indebtedness shall be distributed to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital within 12 months of club dissolution.