

# **SOUTH WEST ENGLAND FIELD TARGET ASSOCIATION**

## **CONSTITUTION**

Revised 2017

1. **The Association shall** be known as the **South West England Field Target Association** (*SWEFTA* being an accepted acronym for the above) hereinafter referred to as the “Association”.
  
2. **The objectives of the Association are:**
  - (a) To support, encourage and promote field target shooting and all aspects of outdoor air-gun shooting.
  - (b) To promote the safe use of air rifles and air pistols.
  - (c) To encourage and help (where required) the formation and development of new air gun / field target clubs within the counties of the South West of England.
  - (d) To promote the use of competition and safety rules for the sport of field target shooting and other outdoor air-gun competitions as set by the Association for regional events.
  - (e) To co-operate with and to support the national governing body, (the British Field Target Association,) and any other shooting, sporting, or associated body on matters of mutual interest to achieve any of the foregoing objectives, but without such co-operation infringing in any way upon the independence of the Association or its affiliated clubs.
  - (f) To use the national rules for competitions where scores are submitted to the national association for grading purposes.
  
3. **The Association will** provide, as a minimum, the following:
  - (a) A forum for the discussion of national and local airgun shooting issues.
  - (b) A framework of regional rules for the competitions shot within the region.
  - (c) A local competitions calendar.
  - (d) Distribution of local competition results.
  
4. **Clubs that meet** with the approval of the Association’s committee may apply for affiliation to the Association. Affiliated clubs are invited to join the competition calendar and should, if circumstances allow, host at least one open event each year, even if there is not a full, normal course of fire. In applying for affiliation, clubs accept the Association as the governing body for the region. All clubs within the Association are required to have appropriate insurance cover, and will display proof of insurance at their grounds.
  
5. **The Committee** shall on proof to its satisfaction and at its absolute discretion have the power to terminate the existing affiliation of any club whose conduct (whether by act or omission) it considers to be contrary to the best interests of the Association, or to the detriment of the sport of shooting. The club concerned should be given the opportunity to appear before the Committee to explain any misconduct.

6. **The Committee** shall on proof to its satisfaction and at its absolute discretion have the power to exclude from all regional activities, any individual member of an affiliated club, whose conduct (whether by act or omission) it considers to be contrary to the best interests of the Association, or to the detriment of the sport of shooting. The individual concerned shall be given the opportunity to appear before the Committee to explain their actions, accompanied by a representative from their club.
  
7. **The Committee's** ruling shall be final in all respects to the administration of the region, and the Committee shall make rules from time to time for the use of the region's rights and property.
  - (a) The Committee shall also have the right to refuse any club affiliation into the region.
  - (b) The Committee may, under circumstances where it feels that such action is warranted, enforce disciplinary procedures of a form as outlined by the national association.
  
8. **The Association** shall have a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Development Officer, Competition Secretary and Scores Secretary and any other officers that the committee deem necessary to transact its normal day to day business. The officers and all committee members shall be fully paid up or life members of affiliated clubs.
  - (a) All officers and members of the committee shall be elected annually at the association's AGM.
  - (b) Officers may stand for more than one year if they are willing.
  - (c) When conducting its normal day to day business, all members of the committee shall have a single vote, with the exception of the Chairman who will only have a casting vote.
  - (d) Other Officers may be elected onto the committee at the discretion of the committee.
  - (e) "Ordinary" members may be co-opted onto the committee at the discretion of the committee.
  
9. **The Committee** reserves the right to meet at a mutually agreed time and place. A quorum shall consist of four members of the committee, including any two of the following officers Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer, and at least one member from any two of the affiliated clubs.
  
10. **The Chairman or Secretary** shall have the right to call an Extraordinary General Meeting on seven days notice, stating the purpose of such an E.G.M. Also the Secretary, upon receipt of a written request signed by six members of affiliated clubs shall call an E.G.M. on seven days notice. Any such request has to state the reason for a Special meeting to be called. As defined in 9; a quorum of the committee must be present at an EGM, and in addition at least one member from any two of the affiliated clubs.
  
11. **Where there** is only one meeting of the committee during the year that meeting shall be known as the AGM.

12. **The Annual General Meeting** shall be held between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October. Any amendments to the Association's Constitution and Rules can be made at this meeting (or an EGM). One month's notice, together with an agenda, shall be sent to the secretary of each affiliated club. The accounts will be available for inspection at this meeting.
  
13. **The following business** will be transacted at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
  - (a) Approve the Minutes of the previous year's AGM.
  - (b) Receive the annual accounts and reports from the committee.
  - (c) Election of officers.
  - (d) Set fees for entry into Regional events.
  - (e) Set local rules and ratify any new ones, including changes to the Constitution.
  - (f) Any other business.
  
14. **In the event** of the Association being wound up and ceasing to exist, the assets thereof shall be realised and after payment of the Associations debts and expenses the balance (if any) shall be distributed in such a manner, as the majority of the member clubs present at a General Meeting shall resolve.