



PORTLAND SOCIALIST RIFLE ASSOCIATION

BYLAWS OF THE PORTLAND SOCIALIST RIFLE ASSOCIATION

This is an edited version of the bylaws, with certain sensitive information redacted. A complete copy of the bylaws without redaction will be made available to any and all Active Members.

Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Portland Socialist Rifle Association, henceforth referred to as the Portland Socialist Rifle Association or PDX-SRA, a chapter of the Socialist Rifle Association, a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization.

Article II. Purpose

Section 1. Statement of Intent

a. The Portland Socialist Rifle Association promotes and advocates for the right of the working class and marginalized populations to community and self-defense. It aims to create a safe, inclusive, alternative to the problematic, toxic, and reactionary nature of mainstream gun culture. It advocates for those discouraged from gaining the proficiency required to defend themselves, including leftists, people of color, the LGBTQ community, and all marginalized populations that experience threats of violence and oppression. It aims to empower its membership with the education, training, and information to defend and preserve their communities. It strives to progress socialism by its participation in its local community through solidarity, collaboration, and mutual aid.

b. The Portland Socialist Rifle Association is an educational organization that explicitly does not engage in direct action as an organization. The organization may stand in solidarity with other like-minded direct action organizations but will not directly participate in those actions. PDX-SRA supports its members in participating in actions independently outside of the organization at their discretion.

c. The Portland Socialist Rifle Association is not a militia or civilian force and does not condone its members engaging in violence on its behalf in any form.

d. The Portland Socialist Rifle Association will conduct itself in compliance with all applicable local, state, and federal laws.

Section 2. Objectives

1. Advocate for Gun Rights as they pertain to leftists and marginalized populations.
2. Train and Educate our membership in firearm safety, fundamentals, and proficiency with Range Days and Firearm Safety Workshops.
3. Train and Educate our membership in applicable self-preservation skills, such as first aid, disaster response, unarmed self-defense, and hunting.
4. Use Consensus Decision Making as defined by Article IV Section 1 to collectively make decisions as an organization with no formal hierarchy by the active participation of its membership.
5. Engage, Collaborate, or Stand in Solidarity with like-minded local and regional organizations.
6. Provide Mutual Aid to local communities in need.

Section 3. Autonomy & Relationship to the Socialist Rifle Association

- a. The Portland Socialist Rifle Association is a chapter of the Socialist Rifle Association, and is located in Portland, Oregon in the Pacific Northwest United States.
- b. The Portland Socialist Rifle Association maintains the right to make organizational decisions, determine its structure, manage its membership, organize events, and coordinate with other Socialist Rifle Association chapters and like-minded local organizations with full autonomy as granted by Article IX Section 1 of the bylaws of the Socialist Rifle Association.
- c. References to the Socialist Rifle Association are to the umbrella national organization, whereas references to the group, the organization, or PDX-SRA refer to the Portland Socialist Rifle Association.

Article III. Membership

Section 1. Eligibility

- a. Any individual that is a member of the Socialist Rifle Association resides in the regions specified by Article III Section 3, subscribes to the principles of the organization and is not disqualified by the limitations listed in Article III Section 1 of the bylaws of the Socialist Rifle Association is eligible to be a member of the Portland Socialist Rifle

Association.

b. Any individual considered for membership will not be denied membership due to race, color, religion, national origin, gender identity, expression, citizenship, marital status, disability, age, or sexual orientation.

c. Any individual found to have a history of expressing racist, sexist, fascist, reactionary, or exclusionary social ideologies of any type will not be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Membership Types

a. Any individual deemed eligible for membership by Article III Section 1 is to be considered a member of the Portland Socialist Rifle Association.

b. There are two (2) types of membership within the Portland Socialist Rifle Association:

1. Supporting Members are members deemed eligible by Article III Section 1 but are not currently active within the PDX-SRA at this time. Supporting Members can not take part in the Consensus Decision Making Process and do not have access to the Online Workspace or any other internal communications.

2. Active Members are members in good standing who fit the requirements of Article III Section 1 and meet the conditions listed below:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


[REDACTED]

c. "In Good Standing" is defined as a member who is current with membership dues, abides by the Codes of Conduct outlined in Article V, and has no active Grievances filed against them.

Section 3. Local Comrades

a. Local Comrades are non-National participants in the Socialist Rifle Association. Local Comrades, as per our reserved rights in Article II, Section 3 b, are individuals who are outside of the 'member of the Socialist Rifle Association' requirement of Article III Section 1 a., that have met the requirements below

[REDACTED]



b. Local Comrades have all the rights given to the Active Members of the Chapter in matters relating to the Chapter. However, the chapter cannot extend these rights to Socialist Rifle Association matters, or access to the National online workplace.

c. Local Comrades may participate in all aspects and roles of consensus decision making as they pertain to PDX-SRA business. However, local comrades shall not be permitted to participate in consensus decision making on matters involving the Socialist Rifle Association.

d. Excluding a case or event in which an exception is explicitly defined, Local Comrades shall have the rights and responsibilities of Active Members and bylaws or policies which apply to Active Members shall apply to Local Comrades.

Section 4. Membership Residence & Jurisdiction

a. The chapter will cover residents of the Greater Portland metropolitan area including the major incorporated cities of Beaverton, Hillsboro, and Gresham in Oregon and Vancouver in Washington.

b. The chapter will additionally cover residents of the incorporated cities of Corbett, Cornelius, Damascus, Fairview, Forest Grove, Gladstone, Happy Valley, King City, Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Oregon City, Sherwood, Tigard, Troutdale, Tualatin, West Linn, and Wilsonville, in Oregon and Battle Ground, Camas, Washougal, Ridgefield, La Center and Yacolt in Washington.

c. The chapter will additionally cover residents of the unincorporated communities of Aloha, Beaver Creek, Cedar Mill, Clackamas, Dunthorpe, Garden Home, and Raleigh Hills in Oregon, and West Slope, Hazel Dell, Minnehaha, Salmon Creek, Walnut Grove and Orchards in Washington.

d. Members that are residents of close surrounding cities, towns, or regions that are not explicitly listed are welcome to join as members of the Portland Socialist Rifle Association at their discretion.

Section 5. Membership Rights

1. The right to know the outcomes of any consensus agreement or vote made by the organization.

2. The right to bring forth any point of discussion, agenda item, or proposal at any meeting or within the Online Workspace.

3. The right to express dissent to any point of discussion, agenda item, at any meeting or within the Online Workspace.
4. The right to declare reservations, stand aside, or block proposals requiring consensus agreement.
5. The right to participate in a non-discriminatory harassment free inclusive environment, and the right to access and pursue action with the Grievance Committee if they feel that right has been violated.

Section 6. Suspension, Expulsion, or Resignation of Membership

- a. Any member is free to resign their membership at anytime.
- b. Any member found in explicit violation of the Member Code of Conduct as defined by Article V Section 1 will be considered for immediate suspension or expulsion from the organization by the consensus of the membership. Any member found in violation of the Anti-Discrimination or Anti-Harassment Policies by the Grievance Committee as defined by Article IV Section 5 may be suspended or expelled by that committee.
- c. Any individual found to be an abuser or to have engaged in harassment or expressed racist, sexist, fascist, reactionary, or exclusionary social ideologies outside of the organization will be considered for expulsion from the organization by the consensus of the membership.
- d. Expulsion from the organization is final and permanent. The length of suspension shall be at the discretion of the Grievance Committee or general membership that reached consensus on the suspension.

Article IV. Organizational Structure

Section 1. Consensus Decision Making

- a. Consensus Decision Making is the dynamic way the organization will reach agreement, committed to finding solutions that all members actively support. It ensures that all opinions, ideas and concerns are taken into account when making organizational decisions. Consensus is neither compromise nor unanimity; it is collaborative, cooperative, egalitarian, inclusive, and participatory in practice. The fundamental right of consensus is for all members to be able to express themselves in their own words and of their own will. The fundamental responsibility of consensus is to assure others of their right to speak and be heard.
- b. The organization will approve proposals and conduct its most important business by Formal Consensus as defined in On Conflict and Consensus by C.T. Lawrence Butler and Amy Rothstein and adhering to the Closing Options and Quorum as specified by

these bylaws.

c. Closing Options

1. Send to Committee: If the group is unable to reach consensus and a decision on the proposal can be postponed, then the proposal can be sent to a volunteer committee for the purpose of clarifying the concerns, and seeking a new resolution in a less formal setting. This option should only be used if absolutely necessary and with the consent of the whole group.
2. Stand Aside: When a concern has been fully discussed and cannot be resolved, the facilitator may ask those persons with this concern if they are willing to stand aside; that is, acknowledge that the concern still exists, but allow the proposal to be adopted.
3. Declare Block: If the group has exhausted the three levels of discussion and was unable to achieve consensus and unresolved concerns remain, the facilitator is obligated to declare that consensus cannot be reached at this meeting. All individual blocks made in good faith will be accepted.
4. Urgent Decision: At the discretion of the group a proposal or decision may be deemed urgent. All unsubstantiated individual blocks that are found to be detrimental or purposely stifling to the process may be bypassed in order to take immediate action. Immediate action including but not limited to: the need to immediately replace a standing committee member, the need to expel a member due to proven allegations of problematic behavior or gross violations of the Member Code of Conduct, or the need to address time sensitive security or safety concerns. All decisions made during an Emergency Meeting are to be deemed urgent.

Section 2. Quorum

- a. A quorum of ten percent (10%) of Active Members or fifteen (15) Active Members whichever is greater is required for any General or Emergency Meeting to transact business. Transacting business meaning to use Consensus Decision Making as described by Article IV Section 1 to approve proposals, approve policies, alter, amend, or repeal bylaws or make decisions pertaining to money or assets, the formation of a Standing Committee, or the expulsion or suspension of a member.
- b. Functional, administrative and operational decisions, including but not limited to: forming working groups, determining meeting scheduling may forgo quorum and be decided by vote or poll of the participating majority during a General Meeting or within the online workspace.
- c. In the absence of quorum or if quorum is lost before a meeting has ended, all proposal, policy, and other non-administrative decisions must be postponed until the

next meeting.

Section 3. Working Groups

- a. A Working Group is a group of members who are working together, towards a common set of goals and performing a task on behalf of the entire membership.
- b. While mostly autonomous, a Working Group must be available, transparent and accountable to the overall membership.
- c. A Working Group may be formed by proposal that has achieved consensus, or informally at the discretion of the membership as long as its goals align with the objectives of the organization as defined by Article II Section 2. The lifespan of the group may be temporary or indefinite depending on the objectives of the group.

Section 4. Committees

- a. A Committee is a group of members formed with a specific agenda or singular goal performing one objective.
- b. A Temporary Committee may be formed during the Consensus Decision Making as defined by Article IV Section 1 for the purpose of clarifying concerns, and seeking a new resolution to a proposal that has failed to achieve consensus. The Temporary Committee is dissolved when that proposal achieves or fails to achieve consensus.
- c. A Standing Committee is permanent and specializes in performing a specific regulatory function on behalf of the membership. Although the committee itself is permanent its members may change under the rules specific to that committee.
- d. A Standing Committee may only be formed by proposal that has achieved consensus and added to the bylaws by the amendment process described by Article VII. Upon inclusion by amendment the Standing Committee purpose and structure must be defined in the bylaws under Article IV Section 5.

Section 5. Standing Committees

a. The Grievance Committee

1. The Grievance Committee is a volunteer committee consisting of three (3) members approved by the consensus of the membership. Members of the Grievance Committee should be representative of marginalized populations and should reflect the diversity of the membership of the chapter.
2. It is the purpose of The Grievance Committee to enforce the general Anti-Discrimination and Harassment guidelines as described by Article V Section 2 and all other Anti-Discrimination and Harassment Policies of the organization.

3. It is the prerogative of the Grievance Committee to vote on whether or not to suspend or expel a member when a discrimination or harassment grievance against that member has been received. A simple majority vote of the Grievance Committee will result in the immediate suspension or expulsion of that member as defined by Article III Section 6.

4. It is the responsibility of the Grievance Committee to protect the confidentiality of the grievant.

5. In the event that the grievance is against a member or members of the Grievance Committee; those members will be dismissed from the committee and new committee member or members will be selected via consensus during an Emergency Meeting.

b. The Operational Security Committee

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

checks.

c. The Welcoming Committee

1. The Welcoming Committee is a volunteer committee consisting of at least three members approved by the consensus of the membership. Members of the welcoming committee should be representative of marginalized populations and should reflect the diversity of the membership of the chapter

2. The Welcoming Committee shall be responsible for meeting new members, [REDACTED], and introduce them to our organization's goals, etiquette, membership expectations and procedures.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Article V. Membership Conduct

Section 1. Member Code of Conduct

1. Members will not make any public statement on behalf of the organization as a whole without the collective consent of the organization.

2. Members will not knowingly hold, assume, or accept a position in an organization that is in direct conflict of the Portland Socialist Rifle Association.

3. Members will not engage in any behavior that intentionally undermines the organization, including but not limited to expressing racist, sexist, fascist, reactionary, or exclusionary social ideologies of any type.

4. Members will abide by the Anti-Discrimination & Anti-Harassment guidelines as defined by Article V Section 2.

5. Members will abide by the Firearm Conduct rules as defined by Article V Section 3.

6. Members will not advocate for illegal actions involving firearms, violence, or threat of violence.

7. Members will abide by the Security Culture Guidelines as defined by Article V Section 4.

Section 2. Anti-Discrimination & Harassment Guidelines

a. Anti-Discrimination: The Portland Socialist Rifle Association is an inclusive organization, it will not tolerate discrimination by race, color, religion, national origin, gender identity, expression, citizenship, marital status, disability, age, or sexual orientation.

b. Anti-Harassment: Harassing, menacing, or retaliatory behaviors of any kind will not be tolerated. Sexual harassment defined as unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature which makes a person feel offended, humiliated or intimidated will not be tolerated. Any expression of sexual harassment whether it be physical, verbal or nonverbal will not be tolerated.

c. The Portland Socialist Rifle Association encourages confidential reporting of all perceived incidents of discrimination, harassment, menacing, retaliation or sexual harassment, regardless of the offender's identity or position within the organization. Any member may at any time present a grievance of discrimination, harassment, menacing, retaliation or sexual harassment to the Grievance Committee as defined by Article IV Section 5a.

Section 3. Firearm Conduct

a. Members will abide by the the Firearm Safety Rules when handling firearms at all times whether it be at official Range Days or in the presence of other members.

b. Members will abide by all local firearm regulations and applicable laws.

c. Firearm Safety Rules:

1. Always treat all firearms as though they are loaded.
2. Do not place your finger inside the trigger guard until you are ready to fire.
3. Do not point the muzzle of a gun at anything you are not willing to destroy.
4. Always be able to identify your target and what is behind it.

Section 4. Security Culture Guidelines

a. Members will not share personal information of other membership to individuals or organizations outside of the group, or on social media without the prior affirmative consent of the effected parties. This includes but is not limited to names, address, contact information, and specific identifying information regarding member vehicles or

firearms.

b. In addition to not advocating for illegal actions involving firearms, violence, or threat of violence as per point 6 of Section 1 of Article V of these bylaws, members will be mindful to not joke about or comment on illegal activity, violence, or threats of violence during organization meetings, events, and communications channels. Use the rule of "would I want this read back to me in court?"

c. Members will be mindful to not leave non-public organizing info available or out in public spaces.

d. Consider need to know status when sharing SRA info.

Article VI. Meetings & Range Days

Section 1. General Meetings

a. A General Meeting is where all organizational business is conducted using Consensus Decision Making as defined by Article IV Section 1 to engage in open discussion, make decisions, and present and approve proposals. General Meetings are open to Active Members Only.

b. Notice of a General Meeting must be made two (2) weeks prior within the private online workspace and should include a posted agenda. Changes and additions may be made to the agenda during the time leading up to the meeting. Time, date, and location are selected at the discretion of the Active Membership.

Section 2. Emergency Meetings

a. An Emergency Meeting addresses urgent matters that must be dealt with before the next General Meeting. Emergency Meetings are open to Active Members only.

b. Notice of an Emergency Meeting must be made one (1) week prior. Time, date, and location are selected at the discretion of the Active Membership.

Section 3. Range Days

a. A Range Day is an organizational shooting event. All members at the event must adhere to the rules of Firearm Conduct as described by Article V Section 3 and have reviewed and signed the applicable waiver. At least one (1) volunteer range officer must be present per five (5) members or guests to oversee the event.

b. Any Active Member in good standing may attend a Range Day and bring one (1) guest if there are available spaces not filled by Active Members. Active Members are to be held responsible for the behavior of any guest, including violations by that guest of organizational rules and policies.

Section 4. Social Meetings

- a. A Social Meeting is a casual meeting held at a location not typically used for General Meetings or Emergency Meetings
- b. Social Meetings are open to all Supporting and Active Members, as well as unaffiliated comrades

Article VII. Amendments

- a. Proposed amendments or changes to these bylaws must be made by written resolution, endorsed by five (5) Active Members and made available to all Active Members two (2) weeks prior to a General Meeting.
- b. Amendments or changes to the existing bylaws can either be approved by consensus of Active Members at one General Meeting as described by Article IV Section 2 or by a 2/3rd majority vote of Active Members at two (2) consecutive General Meetings with both options adhering to the quorum as defined by Article IV Section 2.

Article VIII. Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of the organization, any assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501 © (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or in the manner prescribed by State Law Code, chapter 123, section 456, or corresponding chapter of any future state statute.

Article IX. Ratification

The draft of these bylaws were reviewed and approved by unanimous consensus on February 3rd, 2019 at our chapter meeting with 20 Members present. This final draft was ratified by Active Members via Slack on February 22nd, 2019, with 22 members participating. 22 members voted "Aye", 0 members formally abstained and 0 members Blocked the vote.

An amendment to Article III Section 2b was approved by formal consensus at a General Meeting on April 8th, 2019.

An amendment to Article V Section 1 and Article V Section 4 was approved by formal consensus at a General Meeting on May 19th, 2019

Amendments to Article III Section 1 and Section 3, and Article IV Section 5 were approved by formal consensus at a General Meeting on August 4th, 2019

Revision to correct typos in Article IV Section 5 a, Article IV Section 4 d, and Article III Section 3 was performed on September 4th, 2019

Amendments to Article III Section 2, Article IV Section 5, and Article VI Section 1 and Section 4 were approved by formal consensus at a General Meeting on February 2nd, 2020