



## Constitution of the International Hunting Rifle Shooting Association

1. The name of the organisation is the **INTERNATIONAL HUNTING RIFLE SHOOTING ASSOCIATION**, hereafter known as the **IHRSA**, or the “**Association**”.
2. The aim and objective of the IHRSA is to promote Hunting Rifle Shooting to hunters and shooters in all countries over the world. The IHRSA is aiming to engage as many countries as possible as members of the Association and promoting Hunting Rifle Shooting as a sport that advance accurate shot placement amongst hunters all over the world.

The sport achieve this through offering hunters the opportunity to improve their skills with hunting rifles on suspended steel targets, and paper targets of animals commonly hunted, and Hunting Rifle Shooting matches that are shooting contests of variable and non-standard format that examines practical marksmanship as it occurs in the hunting field.

The Rules and Regulations of the sport form no part of this constitution and are contained in a separate document. The Rules and Regulations, drafted when the association was founded, will be reviewed as required and approved by the IHRSA governing committee.

3. The IHRSA is a not for profit organisation, aiming to involve participants from various countries in a sport specifically developed for the hunter, while coordinating the shooting format according to the different approaches to hunting followed in member countries. All committee members are non-paid volunteers, working together with law enforcement agencies and with other shooting organisations to promote shooting sports.

The only income of the IHRSA will be membership fees from the member countries as well as possible sponsorships, and the Association will not be involved in any profit making deals or schemes. The income of the Association shall be applied to further grow and develop the sport.

4. The members of the IHRSA will be countries and not individual shooters. Each member country will have its own members, which will belong to that country’s affiliated national bodies. Member countries and their affiliated national bodies will control and manage their own members in their respective countries. Any country that wants to become a member of the IHRSA must submit a written application, addressed to the president, which in turn will refer it to the committee for approval, by means of a majority vote. Applications for membership can be submitted at the 2 year period of the general meeting or any time in between. The affiliated body applying for membership (as named on the application) agree to accept and abide by the Constitution as well as the Rules and Regulations of the IHRSA.

The committee will have the power to suspend a member country from the Association if necessary. Unethical or unsportsmanlike conduct is typical valid grounds for suspension. Suspension of a member country requires a voting process where a 51% or greater percentage is in favour of the suspension.

5. The IHRSA will support host country bodies with advice to help manage and organise the IHRSA World Championships as well as coordinate international shoots between member countries. The host country remains responsible for ensuring adherence to local laws and the physical preparation and execution of the event.
6. The committee of the Association will comprise of one representative from the national body or bodies of each member country, typically the chairman of the national body as well as a representative from the 222-223 class or body. If the chairman of that country cannot attend the meeting, he or she can give proxy to a nominee from that country. Observers can attend meetings along with the representative, but will not have voting rights. The committee will be led by a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Safety-Officer.

The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Safety-Officer are automatically nominated for their positions. If elected unopposed, the nominees can accept their nomination or step down. The President can serve a maximum of two consecutive terms. A “term” is defined as the time elapsed between two world championship events. Only country representatives already serving a period of two terms or longer on the committee is eligible to be nominated for these positions in order to ensure continuity. If selected, the relevant country body needs to nominate a new member to represent their body on the committee. In the case of a contested nomination, the nominee with the most votes from the committee shall be elected. In the case of a tied vote, the President shall have the casting vote. In the case of a tied vote for the position of President, the current Vice president shall have the casting vote. The president shall upon expiration of the term at office become the immediate past president for a period of two terms and may not stand for re-election as president immediately after expiration of his term. The Vice President will, unless decided otherwise at the end of term meeting, become President. All nominations will be requested by the secretary at least sixty days prior the end of term (currently the two (2) yearly meeting) and must be in place 30 days before the meeting.

7. The **President** will be the chairperson during all meetings. The President can call special meetings and will lead the strategic direction of the Association. In case of a tied vote, the President may in addition to his/her ordinary vote give a casting vote.
8. The **Vice-President** shall conduct the President’s duties if he or she is not available.
9. The **Secretary** will take minutes of all meetings, send it to the committee members from all member countries, keep copies of all correspondence, keep an updated list of all member countries, and answer all questions regarding the rules and regulations of the Association after consulting with the management committee. The Secretary will be managing the finances on behalf of the Association. The secretary shall manage the funds within the requirements for non-profit organisations, provide a balance sheet yearly, and table a detailed financial report at the three yearly meeting, detailing all the income and expenses of the preceding period.
10. The **Safety Officer** will evaluate range plans for international matches, and ensure a competent local safety representative take charge of all the safety procedures before and during world championship matches while ensuring that all shooters conduct the shoot in a safe and disciplined manner.

11. Telephonic conferences or meetings will be conducted for addressing any issues, as required, between the 2 (two) yearly face to face meetings.

12. Changes to the constitution can only be approved by the Committee through a majority vote. If urgently required, this can be done in the period in-between the 2 (two) yearly meeting; otherwise it will be done during the scheduled 2 (two) yearly meeting.

All changes to the constitution will be approved by 2 (two) thirds of the committee at the meeting specially called for this purpose, or at the 2 (two) yearly meeting.

13. The committee can appoint specific individuals for identified tasks as needed, such as media contact, raising the profile of the sport, updating the rules of the discipline, interaction with law-makers or law enforcement organisations, etc. The committee can also appoint a person to any vacant position in the committee, for instance if the position for the safety officer becomes vacant.

14. Daily correspondence will be done by internet, telephone or fax. It is expected that a response to a query will be given within 5 working days. If an office bearer will be unavailable to answer a query within this period, he / she must delegate their authority to another office bearer.

15. The Secretary shall keep a record of all correspondence and have it available at the next committee meeting for review.

16. The headquarters will be based where the president resides, or if challenged, where the committee decide through majority vote.

17. The Association will be run on a non-political basis.

18. Membership fees will be determined by the Committee every second year and the amount will be per country, and not per person. Enrollment stipend from the World Championships event is reviewed at the same frequency these events take place (currently two(2) yearly) by the committee. Money belonging to the Association will be used to promote the sport where needed as the Association is not a profit based organisation.

19. All changes to the constitution will be considered by all representatives, and require approval by 2 (two) thirds of the committee at the meeting specially called for the purpose, or at the 2 (two) yearly meeting.

20. If for any reason the Association must be dissolved, it can be done with a special meeting by the committee members, where a 2/3 (two-third) majority vote in favour. This will authorise the dissolving of the association. All funds available will be evenly distributed between member countries.

21. By interpretation of this Constitution, the English version will apply.

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