

BGSL MEMBERS HANDBOOK

*Constitution
&
By-Laws
Of
The Blue Grass
Sportsmen's League*

Table of Contents

Introduction...

President's Statement...

BGSL Club Grounds & Operation...

Your Membership...

Junior Membership...

Your Responsibilities...

The Ranges & Shooting Facilities...

The Divisions...

Map...

Our Constitution & By-Laws...

Introduction

Welcome to the Blue Grass Sportsmen's League.

You have been accepted into the largest, most diverse and finest sportsmen's club in the state of Kentucky. Your first duty is to read, understand and practice the Constitution of the BGSL.

Understand that this handbook is meant to be a guideline and is subject to change. It is to supplement the constitution & by-laws and help you get off to a knowledgeable start in your new organization, and as time goes by a valuable reference to your membership rights, privileges and responsibilities.

Always remember, that as a member of the Blue Grass Sportsmen's League, you are first a Sportsman and Conservationist and second a Shooter or Hunter. This is a concept that all members must practice to secure our futures.

**BE SAFE, HAVE FUN AND REMEMBER
THE YOUTH ARE THE FUTURE**

President's Statement

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome
you as a new member of the

Blue Grass Sportsmen's League.

When I joined the BGSL, I was probably a lot like you are now. Happy to be a member, but not sure of what. I would go shoot a little and come to a meeting occasionally, but I never really got to know anybody or anything about BGSL. I can honestly say that the BGSL has absolutely nothing to offer you if you are not willing to get involved. The BGSL is not just a place to shoot your gun; it's a lot more. From it's formation in 1945, our fellow members have not only participated in, but have set the standard in areas such as conservation, hunters education, competitive shooting sports, and the list goes on.

The best place to start getting involved is by checking out the divisions. You don't have to settle on any particular one, I belong to four myself. If you can't find anything that truly fits the bill, work on getting what you want started. Skeet & Sporting Clays did not exist when we moved to Wilmore and Cowboy Shooting is so new some people don't even know about it yet.

The only thing holding you back is you!

BGSL Club Grounds & Operation

General Club & Board Meetings:

General Club: 7:30PM 1st Tuesday of each Month

Board of Directors: 7PM Last Tuesday of each Month

PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND

Handy's Bend Farm:

1435 Acres

5 1/2 Miles of Kentucky River Frontage

1.5 mile blazed waking trail (and growing)

BE CAREFUL!!!

Front gate hours & Electronic gate operation:

November to April = 9AM to 6PM

April through October = 8AM to 9PM

After hours EXIT ONLY! (Shark Teeth!!!)

Gate cards \$10, \$10 replacement

Match up gate card arrows and swipe, gate will rise

BGSL & Bookkeeper Mailing Address:

Blue Grass Sportsmen's League

2500 Handy's Bend Road

Wilmore, KY 40390

Phone Number's:

Guard house= (859)-858-4060

Can be used for local calls.

Bookkeeper= (859)-278-4722

Automobiles / Grounds / Speed Limit:

20 mph NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

Must have permission to leave maintained roads.

Road to river bottoms is gated, must sign for key.

Road too narrow for 2-way traffic.

No ATV's without board approval.

Restrooms & Shower Facilities

Located behind the General Purpose Range are men & women's restrooms and hot showers.

Restrooms, at the Main Club House and also at the Trap Range are open to the general membership.

The BGSL Camp Grounds... These sites are located on the east side of the club just south and in walking distance of the lake. They are completely primitive and an awesome facility. There are charcoal grills and fire pits at most of these sites. You must sign in with the gate guard and there is an after hours gate key available. Be careful and have fun.

Walking Trail... This is a blazed 1.5-mile trail built by the Boy Scouts of America, Troop #98 of Lexington and the BGSL Youth Committee. It was an Eagle Scout Project of Caleb Benton. The criteria for this trail were a Grandmother, Mother and her toddler to be able to traverse. The trail is marked on the map in the back of this book. The club looks forward to working with anybody or group, in the future, to expand the trail system.

The BGSL Lake... State rules apply, license and size restrictions. This is a small spring fed impoundment that is stocked with catfish, bass and blue gill. There is changing club policies on species limit and all carp must be released. Please check with the security trailer before fishing. Have fun!

Your Membership

Your Membership Card

After Orientation you are a member in good standing and your dues are paid for a full year. You have received a membership card and your renewal date is stamped on it. Along with the card came a badge holder (\$1 replacement), although it is not required to use the holder, it is required to have your membership card on your person while on club grounds and you must have it displayed while using the ranges or fishing in the lake.

If you received a blue receipt instead of a membership card, this will be your card until you are mailed a replacement.

Family Membership

Your membership is a family membership. Family means your spouse and children under the age of 18 years. **All other relatives are guests.** All children must be supervised at all times. As children pass their 17th birthday they must purchase their own membership prior to their 18th birthday. Initiation fees are waived as well as any waiting period. They fill out an application, come to the front of any waiting list, pay their dues and go through orientation to become in good standing. If your family comes to the club without you, they need your membership card and gate pass.

Junior Memberships

Juniors can join this League if they are under the age of 17. This is an individual membership that does not include any family or guests. These memberships do not count against the constitutional membership cap. The cost is half the current dues and requires no initiation fee or waiting list. Applications can be picked up at the security trailer, the bookkeeper or from the youth committee.

Your Responsibilities

Paying Dues

Membership dues are for 1 full year from the orientation anniversary and come with a 30 day grace period. There is a post card that will be mailed to notify you that they are due. In addition, your expiration date is on your membership card and on the address label of your news bulletin. If a member lets his dues lapse beyond the grace period, they will be dropped from the club membership rolls. To be reinstated at this point will require a new application and start the process over again to include any waiting period at that time. Please mail your dues to the bookkeeper via the P.O. Box or bring them to the Treasurer at a club meeting.

Your Vote

Every September is the election of Officers and Directors and periodically there are votes on different issues. This membership comes with 1 vote. Either spouse can cast that vote with the membership card in hand.

Guests

Each member is allowed to bring a maximum of 2 guests when they come to the club. If these guests are going to use the ranges or fish in the lake, you must pay a guest fee. At this time that fee is \$10 per guest. This fee, for accounting purposes, comes from the member. You must supervise and are responsible for your guests. If you don't intend to shoot or fish no fee applies. There is no fee to: hike, picnic, attend club meetings, etc. Also there is no guest fee to attend youth functions and events or open events put on by the club or divisions.

You have a duty to try to sign up these guests as members. If you have a friend, relative or fellow sportsman that wants to join the club, get them to complete an application, signed by you and an officer or director of the board.

Have them send it to the P.O.Box or get it to an officer or membership committee member. If this person is a relative please mark that on the front of the card and the waiting list may be waived.

Affiliates / Publications

Your membership dues pay your dues for League of Kentucky Sportsmen (LKS). All BGSL members are also members of the LKS. This is a statewide organization with representation to the Game Commission, the KDFWR and the Legislature. You will be associated with the 6th District Federation of the LKS. We have by-monthly meetings and you are urged to attend. For more information please contact a BGSL delegate or an officer / director.

You will receive a monthly newsletter from the BGSL. It's called the Sportsmen's Trail and it will contain a host of information. Monthly board meeting minutes, officer and division director phone numbers, division news, club events and calendars, advertising and tidbits. Deadline for posting articles and advertising is the 13th of the month.

Along with the Sportsmen's Trail you will receive the Kentucky Sportsman and Kentucky Afield. These are LKS publications. The KY Sportsman is a news paper format that deals more with the nuts and bolts of the LKS and the KY Afield is a magazine that is geared toward hunting and fishing statewide and sends you a very nice calendar in May.

The Range Facilities

All ranges are open to the general membership except during times of use by the particular division that oversees that range. These times are usually posted in the newsletter. When this is the case, please feel free to join in the competition or the general-purpose range is always available.

Each range has rules posted for that particular division that oversees that range. These times are usually posted in the newsletter. When this is the case, please feel free to join in the competition or the general-purpose range is always available.

Each range has rules posted for that specific venue. **We practice firearms safety at all times**, therefore some more common sense rules may not be posted. **There are not any ranges at the Handy's Bend club grounds where FULL METAL JACKET (FMJ / Ball) rifle ammunition can be used.** So leave the military surplus ammo at home. FMJ pistol ammo can be used at the pistol and general-purpose ranges. **At All ranges, every shot must be aimed.** This includes the shotgun ranges as well.

No full auto firearms are permitted.

The only place on the club grounds you grounds you can discharge loaded weapons is on a range firing line!!! Only exception is by prior board approval such as a quota hunt.

The Ranges Include:

General Purpose Range . . . This range is open to the general membership at all times. It consists of 2 backstop burms. The long side is designed for long guns and hunting style handguns. It has target posts at 50, 75 and 100 yards. The short side is designed for handguns and rimfire rifles and has target posts at 15, 25 and 50 yards. There are no caliber or gauge restrictions, however only single projectile ammunition allowed and no archery equipment. If you would like to pattern a shotgun, you can do it at Skeet & Sporting Clays Division. The operations personnel maintain this range. Target frames are provided and cardboard is available.

Archery . . . Operated by the Archery Division and only allows archery equipment, no firearms. The range features 20, 30, 40 and 50-yard bales for field points only. Broad head bales at hunting season and 3-D shoots in their season.

Trap Range . . . The Trap Division oversees this field and it's facilities that include 6 trap houses. Please feel free to set up your own trap and have at it.

Skeet & Sporting Clays . . . These two venues are maintained and operated by the Skeet & Sporting Clays Division. They feature 2 skeet fields, a 5-stand course, a wobble trap and 2 sporting clays courses (50 and 100 birds).

Casting Ponds . . . Seasonal; targets set in March and removed in October. The Casting Division oversees this facility that feature plug and fly courses. No hooks allowed, only casting plugs and flies. No swimming or dog training (they know the dogs can't read the sign!).

Dog Training Fields . . . Operated by the Pointer & Setter Division and features about 40 acres for training pointers, setters and flushers. You can also train dogs in the BGSL Lake. Contact the division for more information.

The Rifle Range . . . The Rifle Division operates this range and it features 100, 200 and 300 yard target posts. You may drive to the target frames to post targets.

The Pistol Range . . . Operated by the Pistol Division and only allows handgun calibers, air rifle and rimfire .22 rifles on the firing line. It features a 25 and 50 yard target posts. IPSC pits can only be utilized by members who are ("pit certified"), for information contact the division.

Muzzle Loader Range . . . The Muzzle Loader Division oversees this range and woods walk course. Only muzzle loading firearms are allowed. This venue features 25, 50 and 100-yard target posts.

Divisions

The Rifle Division

This division sponsors several competitions. The centerfire competitions include bench rest, and hunter matches, which are held once a month. The 22 competitions are also held once a month with three categories of competitions. The rifle division also sponsors an egg shoot during the summer (any rifle shooting eggs at three hundreds yards). All competitions are open to members. The rifle range has 100, 200, and 300-yard post. You may drive to the target frames to post targets, BE SURE TO TURN ON LIGHTING WARNING SYSTEM AND RECEIVE AN ALL CLEAR BEFORE GOING TOWARD TARGETS. Use only paper targets. Do not shoot into wooded frames.

READ all posted safety rules!

REMEMBER, SAFE SHOOTING IS EVERY MEMBERS BUSINESS!

The Pistol Division

Promotes pistol competition and practice in a variety of disciplines. These include Bull's-eye matches (NRA-affiliated), IPSC action pistol and 3-gun matches (affiliated with the United States Practical Shooting Association), IDPA defensive pistol matches (affiliated with the International Defensive Pistol Association), and Cowboy Action Shooting (the "Fox Bend Peacemakers" are affiliated with SASS, the Single Action Shooting Society). All of these disciplines have scheduled matches on a regular basis, usually one Sunday per month. Bull's-eye also has weekly matches that are held at the club in the summer.

The Pointer & Setter Division

This Division is dedicated to conservation and ethical hunting through education. We have open events September through April for Pointers, Setters and Flushing dogs. Please contact a Division Director or member for information and use of the training fields. Safety is a main concern in the field.

The Bass Division

This Division is a family oriented group that likes to Bass fish. We hold approximately 10 tournaments per year and a classic at the end of the season. Members can fish with whomever they want, including family or friends. Trophies and cash are awarded for each tournament. For more information please contact a Bass Division Director.

The Casting Division

This Division has one of the finest facilities in the Nation. We would welcome any member who has an interest. We cast for distance and at targets at known distances for accuracy. All are welcome to join our group, we require a small yearly dues. Our ponds are open to the general membership except during competitions.

We cast plugs in 3 weight classes (1/4, 3/8, and 5/8 oz.). No hooks allowed in the ponds. We also fly cast at targets and welcome any and all fly casters to participate. In both disciplines we can improve your fishing technique. Please come join us for some fun!

The Archery Division

This division promotes all aspects of archery, from basic introduction and 3-D targets and competitions to hunting with bow & arrow. We maintain a nice facility and range and welcome all with an interest. We are very family oriented and sponsor competitions of all kinds. Please contact our directors or any members for more information.

The Muzzle Loader Division

This division promotes muzzle loading shooting sports and primitive oriented fun. We maintain a nice shooting range and primitive camp ground. Also, we sponsor several competitions and rendezvous' over the year. We enjoy all aspects of the primitive sports including tomahawks and period dress. Please come join us and for more information please contact any division member or officer.

The Air Gun Division

We are the newest sports division at the BGSL and take this opportunity to welcome you. This group is also very family and youth oriented and sponsors all aspects of the various airgun disciplines (field target, silhouette, 10 meter and plinking). Our purpose is to introduce youth to the shooting sports and fundamentals of gun safety, responsibility and shooting technique as well as to promote responsible hunting and conservation activities. We shoot at least monthly and hope to see you then.

The Trap Division

The Trap Division sponsors monthly trap shoots at our facility and these shoots are open to the general membership as well as the public. Between matches our field is open to the general membership. At this time you have to bring your own thrower and birds. We are working toward having the facility open through the operations personnel in the future. Come join us for some shotgun fun.

The Skeet & Sporting Clays Division

We are a proactive division of the BGSL. We offer several shotgun venues and would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the Blue Grass Sportsmen's League. Our division maintains 2 Skeet Fields, a wobble trap (crazy quail), 5-stand, an ever changing and challenging sporting clays course and we also maintain the club trap. We shoot at least twice a week and some times more. The division at this time must operate our facility, so skeet and sporting clays can only be shot when we are open and operating. You can come and use the club trap any time the division is not open. Please contact any division member or our officers or directors for more information.

**The handbook portion is intended as
a guideline and is subject to change.**

**Compiled by the BGSL
Membership & Constitution / By-
Laws Committee's
August 2001**

These ranges are our backbone, so please take good care of them. Bring your own targets.

We only shoot paper on these ranges,

(No cans, bottles, hubcaps, skoal can lids). We recommend a staple gun and some masking tape in your range bag.

Blue Grass Sportsmen's League
P.O.Box 1496 - Lexington, KY
Handy's Bend Farm - Wilmore, Kentucky

1427 Acres - 5 1/2 Miles KY River Frontage
 Be Carefull - Don't Get Lost! - 20 mph Speed Limit
 Club Hours:
 April thru October..... 8AM to 9PM
 November thru March..... 9AM to 5PM



