

CONSTITUTION OF THE Brits Defensive Pistol Club

ARTICLE I – Name

The name of this voluntary club shall be Brits Defensive Pistol Club (BDPC), which shall be affiliated to the South African Defensive Pistol Association (SADPA) and function as a club serving the defensive pistol sport shooting demands of the community of the Madibeng areas but not limited thereto, in the Province of North West.

ARTICLE II – Goals, Purpose, Objectives and Mission

Objectives of this club shall be:

- To encourage organised shooting among residents of the aforementioned region, with a view toward improved knowledge on the part of such residents of the safe handling and proper care of firearms.
- To improve marksmanship in the defensive use of handguns, rifles and shotguns, either individually or in combination with each category.
- To promote the development of the characteristics of honesty, good fellowship, self-discipline, team play and self-reliance which are the essentials of good sportsmanship and the foundation of true South African patriotism.
- To develop and promote BDPC in a transparent and open way and to encourage participation in the sport amongst all residents of the aforementioned region.
- To maintain an affiliation with SADPA and such other associations the members may approve of by way of Annual General or Special Meeting.
- To host organised sport shooting events under the auspices of SADPA and according to the Rules of the International Defensive Pistol Association (IDPA) as amended from time to time.
- To host organised sport shooting events for members of BDPC. Such competitions shall, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, either be strictly or non-strictly governed by the rules of the IDPA, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein.
- To support SADPA in promoting the growth of the shooting sports in a safe and legal manner.

ARTICLE III- Membership

Any citizen, or legal resident, of the Republic of South Africa, who may legally own firearms or use them under the supervision of a license holder, may become a member of this club, provided that they also attain and maintain membership of SADPA. All officials must be 21 years of age or older. Junior members (i.e. those not entitled to licensed firearms ownership by virtue of age) may be enrolled and participate in club activities under the supervision of licence Holders.

ARTICLE IV – Dues

No member of the club shall be eligible to participate in BDPC activities or to enjoy any other of the privileges or benefits offered by the club unless such member's dues are paid up to date.

Membership dues shall be payable annually in advance and period of membership shall be for twelve calendar months ending on the last day of February of each year.

Membership dues shall be fixed by consensus of the Executive Committee. Membership must be renewed before the last day of February of each year.

ARTICLE V – Meetings

Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM of the club shall be held during the second quarter of each calendar year. If the AGM does not take place within this time it shall be held within a reasonable time thereafter. The purpose of the AGM is to permit members to obtain insight into the management and developments in the club and for planning purposes and the election of national Executive Committee officials on a yearly basis. Notice of an AGM will be circulated to all paid up members by electronic mail; no later than twenty one (21) days prior to the proposed date of the AGM.

Business of the AGM.

The business of the AGM is to:

- a. Inform members regarding developments in the club by means of respective annual reports from officials.
- b. Approve the budget for the preceding financial year and the budget estimate and proposed expenditure for the coming year. The financial year shall end on the last day of February of each year.
- c. Elect members of the Executive Committee.
- d. Determine new trends and needs of members.

Voting.

Any present paid-up member has the following voting rights, and shall have one vote on any issue to be decided upon at the Annual General Meeting.

- a. The election of Executive Committee officials;
- b. On issues that requires a decision during AGM and Special meetings.
- c. Voting will be done by means of closed ballot or show of hands, as determined on the day and as appropriate to the decision to be made.
- d. A majority vote of members present will be determining.

Quorum for Annual General Meeting.

At the AGM a quorum will be constituted if members present represent a total of fifteen percent of the paid up members. If a quorum is not possible after postponement of the AGM for thirty minutes, the members present will constitute such a quorum.

Regular Meetings.

The regular business meeting of the club shall be the meeting of the Executive Committee who shall meet for the transaction of ordinary business and shall be held as frequently as deemed necessary but not more than 6 months apart. The Executive Committee will conduct the day-to-day business of BDPC and shall fix the time and place of such regular meetings. Decisions will be consensus based.

Quorum for regular meetings.

Three members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Special Meeting.

A special meeting of the club may be held at any time upon the call of the Chairperson or upon the call of a minimum of two members of the Executive Committee, or upon demand in writing, stating the object of the proposed meeting, and signed by at least 25 paid-up members of BDPC and/or the club chairman of BDPC. Notice of the time, place and object of any special meeting shall be given to all officials/ officers and members in good standing in writing not less than (14) fourteen days prior to the date fixed for the holding of the meeting. The Executive Committee shall fix the place of such a special meeting. This is an extraordinary meeting and is there to discuss matters of urgency or to resolve urgent problems experienced in the club.

ARTICLE VI – Officials

The officers of this organisation shall be as listed below; who acting together shall constitute the Executive Committee. They shall be elected by a majority vote, by ballot or by show of hands, of the members in good standing at the AGM of the organisation. They shall hold office for two years or until successors are elected, whichever may be sooner. Their period of office may only be extended for longer than two years with the approval of a properly constituted AGM or Special General Meeting.

The Executive Committee will be composed of the following officials elected in the years that as indicated:

- a. Officer Finance and Administration. (Uneven years)
- b. Officer Matches and Competitions. (Even years)
- c. Officer Safety and Training (Uneven years)
- d. Officer Equipment and Logistics. (Even years)
- e. Co-opted Member(s). Identified and appointed by Executive Committee as required.

(Co-opted members will have no vote on issues arising but will take part in discussions.)

The Executive Committee has general supervision and control of all the activities of the club.

The Executive Committee may enter into agreements with other organisations and individuals to further the objectives of the club. The Executive Committee functions and conducts its business on the basis of consensus and majority vote. Resignation by any officer must be submitted to the Executive Committee in writing. A vacancy in the Executive Committee may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Executive Committee and the official thus selected will serve as a full member of the Executive Committee until the first AGM or Special General Meeting at which time this post will be filled by election. However, if more than two vacancies simultaneously exists, a special meeting of the club shall be called and new officials shall be elected to fill the vacancies.

The officials of this club shall maintain individual membership in SADPA for their tenure in office and be registered Safety Officers with SADPA.

FUNCTIONS OF OFFICIALS

Any official may be assigned tasks and responsibilities other than as detailed below by general meeting of the Executive Committee, with a view to ensure a fully functional club.

Officer: Administration.

The Officer: Administration shall conduct all official correspondence pertaining to the proper preparation and forwarding of reports required of the club by the SADPA or other affiliated bodies. He shall notify all members of the Executive Committee of all meetings, and the members of special and general meetings. He shall keep a true record of all meetings and have custody of the books and papers of the club. He shall also be responsible for the finance of the club and will report back to the members at the AGM on the finances of the club. He will be responsible for the registration moneys, payments to SADPA for membership fees and any other financial matters.

Officer: Matches and Competitions.

The Officer: Matches and Competitions will be responsible for all matches and competitions of the club. He must ensure that the standards and philosophy of SADPA as applied to all members. He shall be responsible for all reporting obligations regarding the club's matches. He will also be responsible for the advertisement of upcoming events, the entry list, squadding, registration on the day, the capturing of the scores and the publishing of the scores and booking and confirmation of the shooting range.

Officer: Equipment and Logistics

The Officer: Equipment and Logistics shall be responsible for maintaining a sufficient stock level of all consumables necessary to present matches. He shall maintain an asset and stock register and obtain any necessary items to prevent interruptions in the presentation of matches. He will be responsible for neatness of the storeroom and container.

Officer: Safety and Training

The Officer: Safety and Training will be responsible for the training and standard of the Safety Officers in the club. He will be a certified Safety officer with IDPA. He will also be responsible for the New Shooters Orientation course that will be presented by the club as the need arises. It will be his/her duty to ensure that the members presenting the NSO course are well trained.

Co-opted Member(s)

Members co-opted shall perform such duties as decided on by the Executive Committee from time to time.

Chairman

The chairman will be elected by the committee on the first committee meeting after the election of the committee and will be responsible for the running of the General Meetings of the Executive Committee. The term for the chairman will only be one year.

Generality of duties:

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary above, it is understood that duties may overlap and will not prevent any member of the Executive Committee partially or fully fulfilling the duties of any other member and duties may be assigned on a rotational basis to all members of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII - Suspension or Expulsion

Suspension or Expulsion by Special General Meeting

Membership of any member of BDPC (including Executive Committee members) may be revoked by a two-thirds majority vote of the members in good standing present at any special general meeting called for this purpose. No vote on suspension or revocation of membership may be taken unless at least fourteen (14) days' notice in writing shall have been given to the member / official of the reasons for his/her removal and of the time and place of the special meeting at which such ballot on his/her removal is to be taken.

At such special meeting the member shall be given a full hearing. Any member may be suspended or have his membership revoked for any cause deemed detrimental to BDPC or the shooting sports, by way of a two-thirds majority vote of present members at any special general meeting called for this purpose. For purposes of this Article, the IDPA Codes of Conduct for members shall be the guiding principle, and a first violation shall not constitute proper reason for suspension.

Suspension or Expulsion by Executive Committee

Any member in good standing may lay charges against any official or member in writing clearly stating the facts relied upon and accompanied by all affidavits or exhibits, which are to be used in support of the charges. Such charges shall be filed with the Officer: Administration, who will immediately notify the Executive Committee. The Chairperson will call a meeting for the Executive Committee to hear the charges. The Officer: Administration

will give at least (14) fourteen days' notice of the meeting to each member of the Executive Committee, to the accuser and to the accused, which notice shall be in writing and will include a true copy of the charges and of the supporting affidavits and exhibits. A simple majority vote of the Executive Committee shall decide on any recommendation for suspension or expulsion.

In all instances of suspension or expulsion, the member so affected shall have the right to appeal the suspension or expulsion to the Executive Committee of the SADPA who shall act as arbitrator to the dispute, and if such appeal fails, to the IDPA. ARTICLE VIII - Match Rules Competitions and shooting events will be held in accordance with the philosophies and rules of the Executive Board of the International Defensive Pistol Association.

ARTICLE IX – Finances

The Officer: Finance and Administration shall have charge of all funds, membership dues and other income of the club and place the same in such bank or banks as may be approved by the Executive Committee.

All income, whether cheques or cash shall be deposited as above and may not be directly credited to any petty cash amount held or to any third party unless properly accounted for.

Such money shall only be withdrawn and for the payment of such bills the Executive Committee have approved with due understanding that bills which cannot be reasonably approved in time may be ratified. The Officer: Finance and Administration shall keep accurate account of all transactions and render a detailed report with vouchers at any meeting of the Executive Committee when requested and an annual report to the club at its Annual General Meeting.

The Officer: Finance and Administration may maintain a petty cash amount for payment of day to day office administration expenses, such amount will be accounted for as above and the total amount of cash and/or vouchers on hand at any time may not exceed a sum authorised by majority Executive Committee decision. A detailed petty cash expenditure report with vouchers submitted and approved at any meeting of the Executive Committee shall authorise the withdrawal of a sum equal to the total of the approved vouchers in order to restore the petty cash amount held to the approved level.

No salaries, Officer's fees, donations, subsidies, gifts or honorariums may be paid to any person, member or official from club funds unless such has been authorised in terms of a budget previously presented to and approved by a majority vote of a properly constituted AGM or Special General Meeting or a proposal approved by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X – General

The intellectual property of BDPC remains the exclusive right of the club, in custody of the Executive Committee.

Any reference to the male gender is considered to be referring to gender equality.


ARTICLE XI – Amendments to the Club Constitution

Any member of the club may introduce proposed amendments or request a special meeting called for this purpose. Such proposed amendments must be submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration. The proposal shall then be forwarded to SADPA for their consideration. After they have been approved / disapproved by the SADPA, they must be acted upon by the Executive Committee. The BDPC membership must then be informed about the outcome of such proposal at an AGM or Special Meeting called for this purpose. A copy of the proposed amendments must be provided and be sent to paid up member at least ten days prior to the meeting. Final approval and adoption of such amendments will be by a two-thirds majority vote of members present or represented by proxy at such an AGM or Special General Meeting.

ARTICLE XII – Dissolution of the club

Upon the dissolution of the club, whether by decision of the Annual General or Special meeting or order of court, the nett assets of the club shall be taken over by the SADPA as association with similar aims and shall solely be utilised for the development of the shooting sports.

Date

BDPC Chairperson  Santie Meyer
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