

STATUTE

*As read and approved at the 23rd AGM
Held At The Le Meridien Hotel, St. Julians
On Saturday 9th February 2007*



ASSOCIATION OF MALTESE ARMS COLLECTORS & SHOOTERS (AMACS)

83, Triq l-Oratorju, Naxxar NXR 2504, Malta
E-mail: info@amacs-malta.org
Website: www.amacs-malta.org

CHAPTER ONE

THE ASSOCIATION

1) NAME

1.1 The Association shall be called the Association of Maltese Arms Collectors & Shooters, hereinafter referred to as "AMACS" and shall be deemed to be constituted for all effects and purposes of Law.

2) CREST

1.2 The crest of the Association and its associated clubs and society shall be of a design approved by the Committee.

3) REGISTERED ADDRESS

1.3 The Registered Address of the Association shall be AMACS, 83, Triq l-Oratorju, Naxxar NXR 2504, Malta or at any other address in Malta, which may be determined from time to time by the Committee of the Association.

4) OBJECTS

The Objects for which the Association is established are:

1.4.1 To establish and maintain a non-political central body for persons or organizations whether in Malta or abroad, who qualify to be Members of the Association in terms of Chapter 2 below, and who, in a common endeavour to set ethical standards in the practice of the below-mentioned activities and diffuse such practice, are engaged in, concerned with and, or interested in:

- Target-shooting sports
- Historical re-enactment
- The collection and research of arms, militaria and related articles

- 1.4.2 To organise and promote activities in order to help the Members of the Association (hereafter referred to as "the members") to develop their knowledge and skills in matters relating to the Objects of the Association, for their own personal benefit and cultural enrichment as well as that of the general public.
- 1.4.3 To protect the legal interests of the members and to provide a forum for regular consultation between the same on matters of common interest.
- 1.4.4 To communicate with Government or other Public Authorities, constituted bodies or other such kindred bodies on all matters affecting the interests of the members, and to represent the interests of the members in negotiations with such Authorities or bodies.
- 1.4.5 To acquire, generate and diffuse knowledge related to the Objects of the Association.
- 1.4.6 To print, or publish newspapers, periodicals, pamphlets, brochures, and other such material, for the spreading of information with respect to matters relating to the Objects of the Association.
- 1.4.7 To approve a code of ethics incorporating a set of rules and regulations intended to establish and enhance standards, as well as any other matter which the Association shall deem fit to include.
- 1.4.8 To set up sub-committees to deal with specific issues in the interest of the members of the Association.
- 1.4.9 To co-operate with and/or become a member or associate of any Association or Federation, local or foreign, whose main objects are identical or similar to those of the Association.
- 1.4.10 To raise funds by means of subscriptions from members and levies on

members or otherwise, for all the purposes and Objects of the Association, in such amounts and in such manner as provided for in the rules.

- 1.4.11 To lend, borrow or raise, or secure the payment of money in such manner as the Association shall think fit, upon such terms or conditions as shall be deemed expedient.
- 1.4.12 To accept, undertake, or execute any trust or gift which may be deemed to be in accordance with, or which may further or benefit the Objects of the Association.
- 1.4.13 To construct, purchase, take on lease, or acquire under any other legal title, land or buildings as are necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Association, and to maintain and alter same according to necessity.
- 1.4.14 To do all such things as are incidental and/or conducive to the attainment of the Objects of the Association.
- 1.4.14 Without prejudice to anything contained in any of the above clauses, it is hereby declared and established that the Association is non-profit making and for such purpose the distribution of any of the assets of the Association to its members shall be prohibited, except for the payments of bona fide salaries, wages or honorarium, to its administrators. This shall be applicable in all cases except those where the economic activity carried out by the Association shall be done as an ancillary activity for the purpose or in connection with assisting the Association to carry out its main objects and purposes in accordance with this statute.

CHAPTER TWO

MEMBERS

1) MEMBERSHIP

2.1.1 Membership shall be open to Individuals who are enthusiasts of target shooting sports and/or historical re-enactment and/or the collection and researchers of arms, militaria & associated articles, and who at the time of enrolment join at least one of the constituent clubs which are currently:

MALTA ARMS & MILITARIA SOCIETY	(MAMS)
MALTA MUZZLE-LOADER SHOOTING CLUB	(MMSCL)
MALTA AIRGUN SHOOTING CLUB	(MASC)
MALTA RIFLE & PISTOL SHOOTING CLUB	(MRPSC)
MALTA CROSSBOW SHOOTING CLUB	(MCSC)
MALTA TACTICAL AIRSOFT CLUB	(MTAC)

2.1.2 Membership shall also be open to nominated members of legally constituted bodies which seek affiliation with the Association.

Provided that such persons:

2.1.3 Do not possess a criminal record and are of good conduct as certified by the Commissioner of Police.

2.1.4 Keep their firearms in conformity with current laws and regulations.

2.1.5 Obtain their parents' or legal guardians' consent if they are under eighteen (18) years of age.

2.1.6 Be of sound mental health

2.1.7 Are approved by the Committee according to the procedures established by the Statute.

2) PROPOSAL OF CANDIDATES

- 2.2.1 Applicants who have paid their appropriate fee shall be called to a meeting with an interview board consisting of at least two members being either Committee members and/or designated members. Applicants shall then be notified in writing of the Committee's decision and if accepted they shall be granted probationary membership. Full membership shall be confirmed at the end of a probation period and the attendance of club activities which shall both be determined by the Committee.
- 2.2.2 Applications for membership by Individuals and/or organisations not resident in Malta shall be forwarded directly to the Committee who will treat such applications on their own merit.

3) REJECTION OF CANDIDATES

- 2.3.1 The Committee shall have the power to accept or reject such applications without giving any reason for its decision. The applicant shall be informed in writing by the Committee and the proposer and seconder may jointly, within one (1) month from the date of such notice, appeal from the Committee's decision to a General Meeting. The General Meeting may by majority vote overrule the Committee's decision on the application for membership.

4) GUESTS

- 2.4.1 Guests are allowed to enter the Association's premises as long as they are accompanied by a member who shall be responsible for their behaviour, and / or provided the Committee or its designate do not object to their presence.

5) ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

- 2.5.1 Members shall pay an annual subscription fee that shall fall due upon entry and thereafter shall be payable in advance on the first January of each year.

6) DEFAULTING MEMBERSHIP FEES

2.6.1 If a member fails to pay his Annual Subscription Fee, he shall not be entitled to vote at any General Meeting; and if he fails to pay within three (3) months from the date of notice given to him, in writing, to pay, he shall be struck off from the Register of Members and forfeit all rights and privileges as a Member of the Association.

2.6.2 Provided that the validity of a decision taken at a General Meeting shall not, after it is taken, be questioned on the ground that one or more Members present and voting at the meeting, were not entitled to do so in terms of this Article.

7) RESIGNATION

2.7.1 Any Member wishing to resign from the Association shall give one month notice in writing to the Secretary. Any Member so resigning shall cease to have any further interest or claim on the funds of the Association.

8) REGISTER OF MEMBERS

2.8.1 The names, addresses and copies of any identification documents of members shall be entered in a Register of Members, which shall be kept in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act .

9) STATUTE

2.9.1 Applicants shall receive a copy of the Statute, which is deemed to have been read by the applicant before the Committee notifies the applicant of its decision.

10) OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

2.10.1 All members shall agree to conform and be bound by the Rules of the Association, and in default they shall be liable to expulsion from membership of the Association.

11) HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

2.11.1 Any person may be appointed an Honorary Member in virtue of his public position or merit with respect to the Association. Such an appointment can be bestowed only if the Committee is unanimous in its decision. Any person so honoured shall also benefit of all correspondence and activities offered to regular members; however he shall not be called upon to pay the application fee and the yearly membership fee. He shall not have any voting power during meetings

CHAPTER THREE

MANAGEMENT

1) COMMITTEE

3.1.1 The affairs of the Association shall be conducted by the Committee, which shall consist of seven (7) members (hereinafter referred to as "Officials") elected at the Annual General Meeting in virtue of Chapter 4, Article 5.5 below.

2) COMPOSITION

3.2.1 The Officials must be individual members of the Association whose membership is over one year.

3) OVERRIDING AUTHORITY

3.3.1 In the conduct of these affairs and in the exercise of any power conferred on the Committee, The Committee shall be subject to the overriding authority of the Association in a General Meeting, which may overrule any decision of the Committee by means of a simple majority vote.

4) TERM OF OFFICE

3.4.1 The Officials shall hold office for a term of one year, or as may be decided at the Annual General Meeting, unless all or any of them are removed from office by a Resolution taken at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for the purpose and at which the Official or Officials mentioned in the Resolution are given an opportunity to be heard.

5) VACANCIES

- 3.5.1 Any vacancy on Committee, which may occur from resignation or other cause during the term of office, shall be filled by means of an Extraordinary General Meeting called for the purpose of filling the vacant committee post. An Official so elected shall hold office up to the end of the term of the vacating Official.

6) OFFICIAL CEASES TO BE A MEMBER

- 3.6.1 Officials shall cease to be members of the Committee if they cease to be Members of the Association.

7) MEMBER DEBARRED FROM BEING ELECTED TO COMMITTEE

- 3.7.1 When a member of the Association is a member of another organisation the objects of which conflict, or may be reasonably presumed to conflict or potentially conflict with the objects of this Association, such member shall be precluded from becoming a member of the Committee or any sub-committee of this Association.

8) APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE OFFICIALS AND THEIR DUTIES

- 3.8.1 The Committee shall as a minimum appoint from among its members a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, hereinafter referred to as 'executive officials'. The Committee shall also appoint or confirm those Officials or other persons who are to represent the Association on any Committee, or on any other Body whenever the Association is entitled to be so represented.
- 3.8.2 The President shall preside over the Committee Meetings and General Meetings.
- 3.8.3 The Secretary and/or the Committee's designate shall be responsible for administrative matters, and shall keep Minutes of all Committee Meetings and General Meetings, provide members with Agendas for forthcoming Committee

Meetings and General Meetings and keep all members informed of Association news and announcements through a circular sent regularly.

3.8.4 The Treasurer shall be responsible for all the Association's assets and shall keep proper records of all transactions to the Committee and the members. He shall present a yearly report on the financial situation of the Association.

9) REPRESENTATION

3.9.1 The legal and judicial representation of the Association shall be vested in the President or any other Executive Official.

10) DELEGATION OF POWER

3.10.1 The Committee may delegate all or any of its powers, and shall appoint staff to assist the Committee generally, for such period and remuneration, and on such conditions, as it may deem expedient, and assign to such staff members such duties as it may deem appropriate.

11) POWER TO APPOINT SUB-COMMITEE

3.11.1 The Committee may appoint '*ad hoc*' Committees as it may deem necessary. Persons appointed as members of such committees need not necessarily be Officials.

3.11.2 The Sub-Committees shall be composed of at least three members, one of whom shall be a Committee member but not necessarily an Executive Official.

12) COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- 3.11.1 The Committee shall meet at least once every month or as frequently as may be deemed necessary by the Officials. A meeting of the Committee may be called by the President at any time, or shall be convened upon a request in writing signed by at least three (3) Officials, specifying an Agenda for the Meeting, and deposited at the Registered Office of the Association. Whenever such a request is made the Meeting shall be convened within five (5) working days of the receipt of the request, unless the signatories thereto agree to a later date.
- 3.11.2 Any motion shall be approved by a simple majority vote; however if unsuccessful it shall not be presented again before (3) months have passed. This provision may be overruled if the motion proposed is immediately re-presented by at least three (3) Committee members and all Committee members are present to discuss the motion.
- 3.11.3 Officials shall attend all meetings of the Committee, unless advance notice of absence has been given to the Secretary. Any member failing to attend three (3) consecutive meetings, except for a valid reason to be approved at the following meeting, shall cease to be an Official.
- 3.11.4 Provided that Officials shall be notified of any Committee meeting at least three (3) working days prior to the date fixed for a Meeting. Such a notification is to be accompanied by an Agenda to be drawn up by the Secretary.
- 3.11.5 Provided further that, in cases of urgency, the President may call a Committee Meeting without given notice as aforesaid.
- 3.11.6 No Official shall disclose any of the discussions held during Committee meetings. In such an event, the Committee shall have the right to request the Official to tender his resignation from the Committee.

12) QUORUM

3.12.1 Four (4) Officials shall form a quorum.

13) MAJORITY VOTE

3.13.1 All decisions taken by the Committee shall be taken by a majority of votes of the Officials present. The President or other member presiding shall have a second or casting vote in the case of equality of votes.

3.13.2 All issues are to be discussed at Committee meetings only where matters are settled and decided by a simple majority vote; however if a decision on an important issue has to be reached and there is absolutely no sufficient time to convene a meeting, the President can, after consultation with at least three (3) Officials, decide on behalf of the Association. A Committee meeting should then be convened urgently to discuss the matter and ratify the decision.

14) SECRECY OF VOTE

3.14.1 Voting shall be secret whenever a request to this effect is made by any Official.

15) OFFICIAL DEBARRED FROM ATTENDANCE

3.15.1 Whenever there is a discussion or voting on any matter in which a particular Official has, directly or indirectly, a financial interest, this Official shall declare his interest and shall not be present during the discussion or voting on this particular issue.

16) CONSTITUENT CLUB COMMITTEES

- 3.16.1 The constituent clubs listed in 2.1.1 shall be administered by the Club Committees which shall each be composed of one member nominated by the Association Committee and a maximum of six members elected by the club's members. Such an election shall take place not later than 30 days after the Annual General Meeting and only full members are eligible to contest.
- 3.16.2 The powers of the Club Committees shall be limited to the organisation of club activities subject to AMACS Committee approval if a decision involves financial matters or any contact with the Public Authorities.
- 3.16.3 Club Committee decisions may be overruled by the AMACS Committee in the event that such decisions are deemed to conflict with Association regulations and or national legislation.
- 3.16.4 The Committees may appoint '*ad hoc*' Sub-Committees as they may deem necessary. Persons appointed as members of such '*ad hoc*' committees need not necessarily be officials.

CHAPTER FOUR

GENERAL MEETINGS

1) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS (AGM)

4.1.1 An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall take place each year not later than the end of February, and at such time and place as the Committee may determine in order for the members to approve;

- a. Reading of the Minutes of the previous A.G.M.
- b. President's address.
- c. Administrative report by the Secretary.
- d. Financial report by the Treasurer.
- e. Any proposals.
- f. Other matters.
- g. Appointment of Electoral officials.
- h. Dissolution of serving Committee.
- i. Elections.

4.1.2 Only those persons who have been full members of the Association for not less than one year are eligible to contest membership in the Committee.

4.1.3 Only members who have renewed their membership for the incoming year are eligible to vote in the AGM.

4.1.4 Anybody who would like to leave the meeting before it is concluded should first ask permission from the President or the person chairing the meeting.

2) EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS (EGM)

4.2.1 Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM) shall be held at such time and place as shall be fixed by Committee, and shall be called whether on the initiative of the Committee or by request in writing of ten (10) of the Members.

- 4.2.2 An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be held not later than three weeks before the AGM so as to appoint two or more members who volunteer to act as auditors. The Treasurer shall make public a copy of the accounts of the Association.
- 4.2.3 Same Rules and procedures apply as that of the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

3) NOTICE FOR GENERAL MEETINGS

- 4.3.1 Except in very urgent cases, notice of every General Meeting shall be given to Association Members, at least twenty one (21) days before the date fixed for the Meeting, specifying the place, the day and the time fixed for the Meeting.
- 4.3.2 The Secretary shall, at least seven (7) days prior to such Meeting, circulate an Agenda which shall specify the matters to be discussed at the Meeting.
- 4.3.3 Any member wishing to raise a specific matter for discussion and/or decision at a General Meeting, shall give due notice to the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Meeting.

4) QUORUM

- 4.4.1 If within fifteen (15) minutes from the time appointed for a General Meeting one third (1/3) of the full Members of the Association are not present, the Meeting, if convened upon the Request of Members, shall be dissolved.
- 4.4.2 In any other case, the Meeting shall stand adjourned to fifteen (15) minutes later or to such other time or to such other day, time and place as the Members present may decide, and, a meeting so adjourned shall be held irrespective of the number of Members present.

5) COMMITTEE ELECTION

- 4.5.1 Together with the notice of the Annual General Meeting given in terms of Article 3 above, the Secretary shall invite Members to nominate candidates in terms of Chapter 3, Article 1, to sit as members of Committee for the following term.
- 4.5.2 Provided that the Secretary shall publish a list of Members eligible for election, at least twenty (20) working days prior to the ballot, and shall duly circulate this list to all Members of the Association.
- 4.5.3 Candidates for election must be proposed and seconded, and must indicate their acceptance of nomination. Such nominations must be sent to the Secretary on forms issued by the Committee, at least ten (10) working days before the date of the Annual General Meeting
- 4.5.4 In the event that the number of nominations received does not reach the minimum requirement of seven (7), nominations shall be accepted during the General Meeting itself.
- 4.5.5 If more than seven (7) nominations are received, an election shall be held during the Annual General Meeting. Voting shall be by secret ballot. The candidates who obtain the highest number of votes shall be declared to have been duly elected. In the event of a parity of votes, the name of the candidate to be elected shall be decided in a by-election held that same day.
- 4.5.6 If seven (7) nominations are received, the Members nominated within the time limit as aforesaid will be deemed to have been elected as Officials to sit on Committee for the following year.
- 4.5.7 Provided that in the case of insufficient nominations by the time the elections are held, an election shall be called within two (2) months at the next Extraordinary General Meeting to elect the remaining number of Officials so as to complete the number stipulated in Chapter 3, Article 1.

6) VOTES

4.6.1 At all General Meetings of the Association, each Member shall have one (1) vote.

7) PROXY

4.7.1 Members of the Association may personally exercise their rights to attend and vote at General Meetings. Provided however that a member of the Association may exercise such rights by means of proxy, duly appointed in writing on a form supplied by the Association, in cases when this is reasonably required. No Member shall hold more than one (1) proxy.

8) CASTING VOTE

4.8.1 At all General Meetings, the Chairman may only exercise his right to a casting vote in the event of equality of votes.

9) RESOLUTIONS

4.9.1 Save as otherwise provided, the decisions of the General Meeting shall be taken by a majority of Members present in person or by proxy, that is by Ordinary Resolution.

4.9.2 Provided that any decision to revoke, alter or amend or add to these Rules or to dissolve the Association, shall be taken only at an Extraordinary General Meeting convened for this purpose, and provided the decision is taken by an Extraordinary Resolution carried by a majority of not less than two thirds (2/3) of the Members present.

4.9.3 Decisions at General Meetings shall be taken by open vote.

- 4.9.4 Provided that any Member shall have the right to ask for a secret ballot, in which case the voting shall be carried out accordingly.

CHAPTER FIVE

FINANCE

1) FUNDS

- 5.1.1 The funds of the Association shall not be used for any purpose other than the attainment of the Objects of the Association.

2) INVESTING FUNDS

- 5.2.1 Such amounts of the funds of the Association as the Committee may deem expedient, shall be placed or deposited with the bankers of the Association.

3) BOOKS OF ACCOUNTS

- 5.3.1 The Treasurer shall keep proper Books of Accounts to be kept, giving a true and fair view of the state of the Association's affairs.

4) AUDITOR

- 5.4.1 At least once in every year, the Accounts of the Association shall be examined and the correctness of the Balance Sheet shall be certified by the Auditor or Auditors of the Association.

5) FINANCIAL STATEMENT

5.5.1 The Treasurer shall each year prepare a Financial Statement duly audited and presented before the Association at its Annual General Meeting.

6) CHEQUES

5.6.1 All cheques and similar bank Documents shall be signed by the Treasurer and any other Executive Official or designated member.

7) INSPECTION

5.7.1 The Books of Accounts and Register of Members of the Association shall be open for inspection by every member of the Association, provided reasonable due notice, which shall not be less than two (2) weeks, is given to the Secretary and the Treasurer.

8) TREASURER

5.9.1 The Committee shall appoint from among its members a Treasurer and assign to such a person certain duties relating to the Books of Accounts of the Association.

CHAPTER SIX

WINDING UP

1) DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY EXTRAORDINARY RESOLUTION

- 6.1.1 The decision to wind up the Association can only be taken by an Extraordinary Resolution at a General Meeting called for this purpose. See also Resolutions 4.9.2 above.
- 6.1.2 The Association shall be considered dissolved if at any point in time its membership falls below seven (7) members.