



# **YORK ADAMS GAME AND FISH ASSOCIATION MEMBER HANDBOOK**

Updated 07/2024

# Rules & Regulations

## General Rules of Safety

- Confirm your Firearm is Safe and in Good Working Condition and is safe to use.
- No one under the age of sixteen years old shall shoot or handle a gun without adult supervision present!
- Gun Actions/Breaches will remain open always.
- Shooters must wear ear and eye protection.
- Do not load your firearm until you are in your shooting station.
- Re-open your action before leaving your shooting station.
- Always keep your gun pointed in a safe direction.
- Always keep your gun unloaded until you are ready to shoot.
- Always keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot.
- Always know your target and what is beyond that target.
- Upon the call "CEASE FIRE," stop shooting and unload your firearm until you are instructed to resume shooting.
- Never go onto a field or change targets until all shooters have finished and the area is safe to proceed.
- Never handle any firearm or shoot under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Failure to obey the rules in any area may result in the loss of your membership.

## Trap & Skeet

- Use target loads only with NO shot size larger than 7-1/2.
- No slugs or sabots.
- Shooters shall NOT leave their empty shell casings on the ground. Pick them up.
- Upon the Call "CEASE FIRE," stop shooting and unload your firearm until you are instructed to resume shooting.
- Never go onto a field or change targets until all shooters have finished and the area is safe to proceed.

## Indoor Archery Range

- Archery is shot indoors.
- No shooting except at target butts.
- All archers are responsible for turning out lights when leaving the indoor range.
- NO Broadheads will be shot in the indoor archery range.
- Archers shoot targets as they appear. Do not jump targets or start on the last target and proceed backwards.
- All archers are expected to practice good safety always.

## Outdoor Archery Range

- No shooting except at target butts.
- Archers on outdoor range should not harass game in anyway.
- Broadheads will be shot only at designated targets in the practice field and/or outdoor range.
- Special Notice: Members must bring/provide their own targets to shoot broadheads, and only at designated areas.
- Archers shoot targets as they appear. Do not jump targets or start on the last target or proceed backwards.
- Please respect the outdoor range. Place any trash or refuse in proper containers.
- No vehicles of any type on outdoor archery range.
- All parking for the outdoor range should be on the stone lot in front of the main clubhouse.
- All archers are expected to practice good safety at all times..

## **Fishing Pond**

- No children under the age of 16 are permitted around the fishpond unless a parent is present.
- No fishing is permissible beyond the posted signs.
- No live minnows are permitted.
- No wading in the fishpond is permitted.
- No boats are permitted in the fishpond.
- Guests are permitted at the fish pond if accompanied by a YAGFA member.
- Membership badge and/or guest badges must be worn while fishing.
- A valid Pennsylvania Fishing License is required to fish in the pond.
- All Trout and Largemouth Bass caught must be registered in the Log Book.
- No swimming, ice skating, or ice fishing is permitted in/on the fishpond.

## **Indoor Rim-Fire Range**

- The Pistol Captain and his designees have the right to inspect all firearms and ammunition to be used on the Range.
- You must be 18 or older to use the Range. An adult (18 or older) must accompany anyone under 18.
- All shooters must sign in at the Range desk upon entering the Range.
- No center-fire firearms allowed.
- Firearms being carried to and from the firing line must be unloaded and carried in a safe manner, in a gun box or bag.
- Consider every firearm loaded until you have opened the firearm and checked it yourself. Never trust your memory or another person's word.
- Shooters shall use an unloaded chamber indicator (trimmer string, etc.) when going down range to retrieve/change targets. Any firearm that is present on the range and not being actively fired will be empty, have its action or cylinder open, magazine removed, and empty chamber indicator inserted followed by any weapon that is being fired and is placed on the bench between firing strings will have its chamber or cylinder open and an empty chamber indicator in place.
- Anytime more than one person is using the range one shooter must assume the duties of "Range Safety Officer", duties shall include;
  - Call a cease fire if any unsafe conditions are observed.
  - Ensure ALL shooters & observers are wearing eye and hearing protection.
  - Ensure all weapons are unloaded (unloaded chamber indicators inserted) and benched. Ensure all shooters stay behind the black painted area on the floor. Make the line "safe" for shooters to go downrange to retrieve/hang new targets.
  - Ensure shooters only use paper targets hung on clips provided.
  - No dry firing is permitted, except while on the firing line with the muzzle pointed down Range.
  - Never load a firearm until you are within the shooting booth, with the muzzle pointed down range. Never point a firearm at anything you don't intend to shoot.
  - Shoot only at your own target. Shooting at anything else (light baffles, target hangers etc.) will result in a disciplinary hearing before the Board and possible termination of membership.
  - In case of a misfire, keep the firearm pointed downrange for at least 30 seconds. After waiting, clear the firearm and check the barrel for obstructions.
  - Eye & ear protection will be worn by shooters & anyone observing in the Range.
  - Carelessness or thoughtlessness will not be tolerated. The strictest discipline must be observed in the Range to prevent accidents or injuries.
  - Shooters must sweep up their brass and put it in the white 5 gallon buckets provided when done shooting & the shooting line is safe and all weapons are boxed or cased.
  - No food or drinks allowed in the Range. No smoking.
  - A maximum of two individuals will be permitted per one shooting lane. Only one person is permitted to shoot at a time. The non-shooting individual must stay in the same area as the shooter.
  - No quick draw from the holster, kneeling down to shoot, shooting from under the booth tray.
  - **NO ONE IS PERMITTED TO SHOOT FROM BEYOND FIRING LINE.**
  - All safety rules are enforced and must be obeyed for the benefit of all. Violation of any of the rules may result in loss of Range use or termination of membership. If you are unsure about anything, ask the Range Officer.

## Outdoor Rifle and Pistol Ranges

**If at any time if you see a safety issue, immediately call for a cease fire on the ranges.** Upon the command "CEASE-FIRE" all firing stops at once. All firearms are unloaded, the actions opened and empty chamber indicators put in place. All firearms shall be put on the bench with the muzzles pointed down range. All shooters shall then step back from the firing line and remain behind the safety line until range is safe and cleared.

### Range Rules

- Pistol range is pistol use only; no rifles or shotguns are to be used on the pistol range.
- This range is for members of York Adams Game and Fish only, and their guests.
- Minors and guests shall be under direct supervision at all times while shooting.
- Load and unload firearms on the firing line only.
- All rounds fired down range shall hit the rear berm. No shooting at targets on the ground or side berms.
- No cross-range firing, only shoot the target directly in front of your bench station.
- Exploding targets, tracers or armor piercing rounds are strictly prohibited.
- Food and Drink are prohibited from shooting benches.
- Never use alcohol or drugs before or during shooting.
- Firearms must have actions open at all times, except when on firing line.
- All shots fired from rifle range must be fired at the ground bank that is located directly behind the target backstop.
- No more than 5 rounds may be loaded into a weapon at a time.
- Absolutely no shooting at anything except paper targets placed on target backstop boards.
- The rifle range is available all year during daylight hours only, and is on a first come, first serve basis. All shooters should be aware of others waiting to shoot.
- Firearm safety must be practiced at all times..
- Failure to obey the rules on the rifle and pistol ranges may result in the loss of your membership.

### Range Safety

- Hearing and eye protection shall be worn at all times while shooting in progress.
- All firearms are to be treated as loaded at all times.
- Never point a weapon at anything you do not wish to destroy.
- Always keep your finger off the trigger and out of the trigger guard until you are lined up on sight and ready to shoot.
- Carry your gun safely, the muzzle shall be pointed in a safe direction at all times.
- Only one loaded firearm at a time.
- Know your target and what is beyond before firing.
- Be sure the barrel is clear of obstructions before shooting and that you have the proper ammunition for the weapon you are firing.
- Unloaded firearms not in use will be placed on the bench or in a gun box with empty chamber indicators in place pointed down range.

### Pistol & Ammunition Use

- Only straight wall ammunition originally intended for handguns is allowed. The only exception to this restriction is .357 SIG; .357 SIG IS ALLOWED. Examples of prohibited ammunition include but are not limited to: 5.7mm x 28mm, .444 Marlin, .45/70.
- No bullet diameter greater than .476
- No case length greater than 1.3". For reference, the case length of a .357 Magnum is no greater than 1.29", .44 Magnum and 45 Long Colt are 1.285".
- Any ammunition used to shoot the steel targets must be within the restrictions described above AND have a muzzle velocity no greater than 1500 feet per second.
- Regardless of the caliber used, no handgun can have a barrel length greater than 12".

# Code of Ethics

- All members of the York Adams Game & Fish Association (YAGFA) will serve the sporting community, associated organizations of the Club(s), and individuals with respect and honesty.
- Members will show respect for and obey all applicable laws, rules and regulations while on YAGFA property. YAGFA will not compromise their principles for any reason or advantage.
- Members will display respect for safety, integrity, fairness, and strive to be honest and trustworthy.
- Members shall be bound by this Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct while representing York & Adams Game and Fish Association at an off-campus activity or event. Members shall also be bound by this document when using any form of social media including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.
- All members will welcome new members and patrons with an attitude of sportsmanship and friendship and will strive to provide a safe and welcoming environment, to avoid harm, and respect the privacy of others.
- There shall be no tolerance for behavior, activities, or apparel promoting gangs or hate groups on the York Adams Game & Fish Association facility grounds. This policy is applicable to all sponsored extracurricular activities, athletic and social events, competitions and training, transportation and other services, and buildings, grounds, and property associated with YAGFA.
- There shall be no tolerance for aggressive behavior or foul language being used in the presence of minors and/or used in an aggressive manner towards other members, patrons or guests.
- Under all circumstances and conditions, members are expected to adhere to high standards of integrity.
- Violation of this Code of Ethics, Club Bylaws, Rules & Regulations, or irresponsible behavior, destruction of YAGFA property or actions that bring discredit upon YAGFA could result in disciplinary action and possible expulsion from the York Adams Game & Fish Association. **Expulsion/Revocations of membership will not result in a refund of fees or dues.**

# Code of Conduct

- The safe handling of firearms and courtesy towards others is paramount.
- Members will always uphold and adhere to the 4 Rules of Gun Safety: All guns are always treated as if they are loaded.
- Never let the muzzle cover anything you are not willing to destroy. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target. Be sure of the intended target and what is beyond it.
- Members will adhere to the rules and regulations of York Adams Game & Fish Association.
- Each member is responsible for acquainting themselves with the location of all facility ranges and possible danger zones and will abide by any and all signs posted on and around the YAGFA facility. Members must familiarize their guests with these locations. Do not wander from established range, parking, and road areas.
- Each range is to be used only for the purpose for which it is constructed, and all equipment must be approved prior to usage. All members shall treat the equipment and ranges with respect and report any and all equipment malfunctions and or maintenance needs to the responsible Captain, or Co-Captain.
- All motor vehicles will be operated only on the facilities roads and shall be parked only in designated parking areas unless approved by the Board of Directors.
- All members shall police their firing points and target areas and deposit trash in the trash barrels. Please leave the range in better condition than you found it.
- There will be NO FIRING OF FULLY AUTOMATIC WEAPONS or Tannerite and/or exploding targets on any range by ANYONE at any time unless directly approved by the YAGFA Board of Directors without express written consent. NO ALCOHOL, CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES or INTOXICATED PERSONS allowed on any ranges. Tracer rounds or any type of incendiary ammunition is strictly prohibited at the York Adams Game & Fish Association ranges
- Any member who shall destroy or deface club property or who shall conduct himself in an improper manner while on club property may be expelled from the organization after a hearing conducted by the Board of Directors.
- Any member so expelled from the organization shall be ineligible for membership for a period of three (3) years.

# Guest Policy

Guests are held to the same standards as any YAGFA members. Members are required to be sure their guests follow all rules, regulations, and codes and are legally allowed to be in possession of and/or are mentally stable enough to be in possession of a firearm. York Adams Game & Fish Association reserves the right to refuse/deny YAGFA Members and guests or revoke a YAGFA membership for misuse of facility and/or violation of those items stated above that are in a direct violation of, by said guest(s). Revocations of membership will not result in a refund of fees or dues.

- Any member 18 years old or older may bring up to 2 guests to the club at a time.
- Guests are required to pay for any range fees, target purchases, and non-member round fees in areas that fees apply.
- Any member 18 years old or older may bring children (17 and under) an unlimited amount of times.
- Members must sign their guest of any age into the guest sign in book and pick up a guest lanyard for their guest to wear before proceeding on club grounds. If the range being used requires an additional sign in, the member must sign themselves and their guest into that range as well.
- Fish Pond – members must remain present at all times with guests under the age of 13.
- Archery – members must remain present at all times with guests under the age of 16.
- ALL gun ranges – a member must remain present and responsible for their guests' usage of the firearms range throughout the visit at the club.
- Non-member visits to the club are not considered under the guest policy and are not held to the 3 visit max rule while participating in events open to the public. These events included but not limited to public tournaments, leagues, classes, and fundraisers held by the club.
- Anyone wanting to bring more than 2 guests at one time to the club must request permission ahead of time by contacting that Range Captain of the area which they would like to use.

# York & Adams County Game and Fish Association

## Constitution and Bylaws

**ARTICLE 1:** The name of the organization shall be the York & Adams County Game & Fish Association.

### **ARTICLE 2 – OBJECTIVES**

- A. To advance the public's interest in fishing, hunting, shooting sports & conservation of the Commonwealth's natural resources.
- B. To raise the standards of sportsmanship, marksmanship, responsible use of firearms, & stewardship among the hunters and fishermen and outdoorsmen/women of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

### **ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Any person 18 years of age or older who is a citizen or permanent resident of the United States of America shall be eligible for membership in the organization.
- B. Any person applying for membership in said organization shall be sponsored by one member currently in good standing or the Board.
- C. The application, annual dues/assessments, and initiation fees shall be submitted for acceptance, which acceptance shall be by majority vote of the members in attendance at a monthly membership meeting.
- D. All members shall be required to pay such annual dues/assessments as shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Any officers, captains, directors or designated committee chairpersons within the organization shall not pay dues during the time the members hold such office.
- E. Only active members and their guests may use these facilities.-All members are subject to card checks and other identification is required.
- F. Any member who shall destroy or deface club property or who shall conduct himself in an improper manner while on club property may be suspended or expelled from the organization after a hearing conducted by the Board of Directors. Absence from the hearing without approved excuse will result in automatic expulsion from the club.

### **ARTICLE 4 – OFFICERS AND CAPTAINS**

- A. The officers of the organization shall be the President, Vice President, Communications Coordinator\*, Club Administrator\*, and Treasurer who shall perform the duties that usually pertain to said offices. President and Vice-President shall be elected for two year terms with President position elected even years and Vice-President odd years. Communications Coordinator, Club Administrator, and Treasurer shall be elected from the membership of the organization and shall serve for a term of one year or until their successors are elected.

\*Note new positions beginning 2025

- B. Vacancy of any position shall be filled by appointment of the President with approval of the Board of Directors until the next annual election.
- C. Captains for Field, Rifle, Pistol, Archery, and Pond shall be elected at the annual meeting. Captains are necessary to conduct and promote safe use of club facilities. The Board shall create additional Captain positions as needed and in the best interest of the club.
- D. Descriptions of Officer positions will be available in the member handbook, posted on club bulletin boards, and in a digital format.

## **ARTICLE 5 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- A. The business of the organization shall be managed by a Board of Directors, who shall be elected by the Active Membership, each for a term of four (4) years. One (1) Board Member to be elected each year.
- B. There shall be five (5) members, one of whom shall be the president of the organization.
- C. Vacancies on the Board shall be filled by appointment by remaining Directors to serve out the unexpired term.
- D. The Board Meetings shall be held each month, on a date and time set by the president and shall generally be held the week before the monthly membership meeting.
- E. A Director absent from three (3) Board Meetings within any twelve (12) month period, without reasonable excuse, may be removed from the Board by a majority vote of the remaining Directors.
- F. The Board shall have the authority to set the rate of Dues/Assessment and to establish dates of payments.

## **ARTICLE 6 – MEETINGS**

- A. The organization will hold at least twelve (12) monthly meetings during each fiscal year. A quorum for the monthly meeting shall be at least 10 members of the organization.
- B. The annual meeting of the organization shall be held the first Thursday of April, at which time the new Board members and officers shall be elected. Written reports from each Captain, the Treasurer, and the President shall be presented and adopted by the membership and the preceding year's business reviewed at the May meeting.
- C. Special meetings shall be held at any time upon the call of the President or by order of the Board of Directors, or upon the written request of fifteen (15) members of the organization. Written notice of the time, place and objective of such meetings shall be given to the members in such manner as the President or the Board of Directors may order, but in no event, shall said notice be given less than five (5) days prior to the meeting date. A quorum for the holding of any such special meeting shall require fifteen (15) members of the organization. Any meeting shall be adjourned from time to time until the business is changed by the President with the consent of the Association.
- D. All meetings will be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure.

## **ARTICLE 7 – COMMITTEES**

There shall be a minimum of the following two standing committee who shall meet upon the call of the committee chairperson: Audit Committee and By Laws Committee

- A. The Audit Committee shall be composed of at least three (3) members of the organization, appointed by the President as soon after the President's election as is practicable, whose duties shall be to review all financial aspects of the organization for the preceding year. Members of this committee shall serve for a term of one (1) year or until their successor shall qualify.
- B. The By Law Committee shall be composed of at least three (3) members of the organization, appointed by the President as soon after the President's election as is practicable, whose duties shall be to review Bylaws and Constitution of the organization for the preceding year. Members of this committee shall serve for a term of one (1) year or until their successor shall qualify.
- C. The President shall appoint such committees, temporary or permanent, as are deemed necessary for the proper functioning of said organization. Members of the committee so appointed should not serve beyond the term of the President by who they were appointed. The President shall serve as an ex-officio member for all committees.

## **ARTICLE 8 – AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the membership, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment shall be prominently posted on club grounds on all bulletin boards and also be posted on the organization's website at least twenty (20) days prior to the taking of said action.

These Bylaws were adopted as of July 11th, 2024.



# General Information

## Contact

Address: 413 Country Club Road, Abbottstown, PA 17301

Phone: 717-619-3128 (leave a message)

Email: [contact@yorkadamsgameandfish.com](mailto:contact@yorkadamsgameandfish.com)

## Using the Website

Most questions can be answered using our website at [yorkadamsgameandfish.com](http://yorkadamsgameandfish.com). Some site items are restricted for login only. Create an account by going to the website and clicking Log In in the upper right-hand corner. You will be given the option to Sign Up. Once you're signed up, you'll be able to view member-exclusive pages on the site.

## Club Hours

The club is open 24/7 for members. Certain areas may be restricted at times due to club events. See the website calendar.

## Amenities

Restrooms are located behind the archery range building and ground floor mother club.

## Meetings

The club meeting is held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30PM in the archery range unless otherwise noted on the website calendar.

## Membership & Proxy Cards

If your proxy card is not working at the gate, please email [contact@yorkadamsgameandfish.com](mailto:contact@yorkadamsgameandfish.com). If you've lost your proxy card, a new card can be secured for \$20 by check or cash at the club office during the member meeting, or by mail. Membership cards are good for the lifetime of your membership. You do not receive a new card each year you renew.

## Annual Dues

Membership renewal fees for each calendar year are due no later than April 1st to maintain an active membership and access to club facilities. April 1st is the renewal date for all members, regardless of the month a member joined the club. After April 1st, renewals are not accepted and reapplying for membership is required. Dues can be remitted via PayPal on our website ([yorkadamsgameandfish.com](http://yorkadamsgameandfish.com)), at a general club meeting the first Thursday of the month, or by mail at YAGFA 413 Country Club Road, Abbottstown, PA, 17301.

## Kids Fish Day

Our Kids Fish Day is held every April. This event is free and open to the public. Children in our community get to fish our 5-acre pond and catch fish to win prizes. You can make a donation toward the Kids Fish Day on our website. Donations help pay for stocking the pond.

## Follow us on Facebook

See photos and get relevant updates at [facebook.com/yorkadamsgameandfish](https://facebook.com/yorkadamsgameandfish)

# York-Adams Game & Fish Association Club Map

