

POLICIES
of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
of the
NORTH-SOUTH SKIRMISH
ASSOCIATION, INC.

Approved through
January 2023

Last Amended 01/2023

Board policy statements are merely decisions about how the Board of Directors will conduct business, or how certain rules and decisions will be implemented. They are made by, and can be changed by, a majority of those voting in a regular or called meeting of the Board of Directors. They are supplementary to the Bylaws of the North-South Skirmish Association and the Skirmish Rules, both of which take precedence over these policies.

POLICIES

<i>Year of adoption</i>	<i>Policy Statement</i>
1991.1	Requests for Regional Skirmishes must be received by the Executive Secretary no later than thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled skirmish date. (Rescinded January 2022 to become Rule 30.6.c)
1991.2	Regions may invite non-members to open house/live fire exercises to generate interest in black powder shooting as long as the non-members do not participate in official skirmishes. (Rescinded January 2023 as it is defined in Rule 16.2.2)
1991.3	(Rescinded January 2012)
1993.1	The board will recognize only its written policies from this time forward. Policies may be replaced amended, or deleted by a majority vote of the board.
1994.1	(Rescinded January 2012)
1995.1	A complete set of “A” package meeting materials as well as additional handouts from every board meeting shall be sent to the Historical Committee for the N-SSA archives. Executive session papers and other items of like sensitivity shall not be part of this package.
1995.2	Completed camper/trailer survey sheets as required by Frederick County, Virginia are a required part of a member unit’s annual renewal package. These must accompany the returns of the annual dues rosters submitted to the Executive Secretary. Failure to include this information makes unit rosters so submitted incomplete and subject to the appropriate late fees.
1995.3	Range usage fees for Fort Shenandoah will be reviewed annually at the August board meeting. The fees set during the review will be effective from January 1st of the following year. (Amended January 2012)
1996.1	The Board of Directors will only accept new unit applications at the January and August board meetings. All required paperwork and funds must be in the possession of the Executive Secretary sixty (60) days prior to the board meeting at which they will be considered. Voting probationary units to full membership may only be done at the January and August board meetings.
1996.2	(Rescinded January 2012)
1997.1	Members who have not renewed their membership and/or new members not signing up before the National Skirmish application deadline will not be permitted to compete in individual matches; however, they may compete in company matches at the National Skirmish.

1997.2	A proposed skirmish schedule will be included with the call for National Skirmish applications; however, the skirmish staff reserves the right to change the schedule if necessary.
1998.1	Changes or amendments to draft board meeting minutes may not be made by individuals, but must be approved by vote of the board.
1998.2	(Rescinded January 2012)
1998.3	(Rescinded January 2012)
1998.4	Motions presented during board meetings must be submitted in writing, either as part of a written report or on a form prepared for that purpose.
1998.5	Members of probationary member organizations enjoy all the rights of members of member organizations <i>except</i> the right to hold one of the four elected national offices. Membership in a probationary member organization does not preclude service on the Board of Directors or in any staff or committee position. (Amended August 2021)
1998.6	The Executive Secretary and Paymaster, being board appointees rather than elected officers, may be members of a member organization, or of a probationary member organization, or may be appointed from outside the membership of the N-SSA. (Amended August 2021)
1998.7	(Rescinded January 2012)
1998.8	Probationary units will be assigned temporary campsites near the pond.
1998.9	The Historical Center will not be a display area for political cartoons.
1998.10	Requests for the use of Fort Shenandoah must be presented no later than the August board meeting in the year prior to the requested date. Requests submitted later than the August board meeting shall not be considered until the following August board meeting.
1998.11	Board meeting reports not submitted by the posted deadline shall not be considered or discussed to the ensuing meeting unless there is an urgent reason for doing so.
1999.1	Seniority numbers for probationary organizations will be in the 900 series.
1999.2	(Rescinded January 2012)
1999.3	The salaries of employees performing satisfactorily shall be increased each year, effective March 1, by a percentage equal to the consumer price index up to three (3) percent. Any amount above three (3) percent will require board approval.

1999.4	The association will pay up to \$300 to cover costs associated with providing lunches for work skirmish participants that is not covered by donations from regions and/or individuals.
2000.1	Roads on Fort Shenandoah will not be named for skirmishers.
2000.2	Each member organization, including skirmish host organizations, will be issued one bridge pass at each National Skirmish. (Amended August 2013)
2003.1	Mailing lists or other data maintained by the N-SSA will not be given out by anyone with access to the association's database.
2003.2	A copy of all official correspondence sent to a member organization or any of its members will be sent to the region commander.
2003.3	All future trophies and awards must have plastic rather than metal plaques because of the high cost of engraving metal.
2004.1	No skirmishes may be scheduled to conflict with the meetings of the Board of Directors on the last full weekend in January or the first full weekend in August.
2004.2	A request for N-SSA funding for regional range development or improvement must be submitted to the Board of Directors on a form provided by the Executive Secretary, and must be submitted in time to be included in the board meeting prep package. The region requesting the funding is expected to offer matching funds.
2004.3	N-SSA membership data shall not be supplied to any outside individual or organization.
2004.4	(Rescinded January 2012)
2004.5	"Lost and Found" items that have not been claimed for two years may be sold by the Executive Secretary, by silent auction or other appropriate means, and the proceeds placed in the Land Acquisition Fund.
2004.6	(Rescinded January 2012)
2004.7	The participation requirement in Article II, Section 4 of the Bylaws of the N-SSA does not require participation in a National Skirmish.
2004.8	Participation under Article II, Section 4 of the Bylaws of the N-SSA means competition in a small arms company match or an artillery match with the required number of participating members. (amended 08/2013)
2004.9	(Rescinded 08/2009)
2004.10	When reformatting or changing the Skirmish Rules, whether for clarification or revision, the new rule number will refer to the old rule number for ease in comparison.

2004.11	(Rescinded 08/2005)
2004.12	If a flight is cancelled necessitating a regional commander to stay over in the Washington, D.C. area following a Board meeting, the N-SSA will pay for one night's stay in a hotel for the regional commander whose departure has been delayed.
2004.13	(Rescinded 08/2010)
2004.14	The skirmish dates for the next year shall be forwarded to the Executive Secretary no later than December 1. The Executive Secretary shall submit a list of the skirmishes to the Board for its approval at the January board meeting with a copy to the IT manager to post on the web.
2004.15	Upon written request by the member to the Executive Secretary, the dues of a reservist or member of the National Guard who is called to active duty and deployed to a war zone shall be waived for the year(s) he or she is deployed; and further, upon written request by the member to the Executive Secretary, the dues of a regular armed forces member deployed to a war zone shall be waived for the year(s) that he or she is deployed.
<hr/>	
2006.1	The Board of Directors will adopt rules as necessary for the use of the Fort Shenandoah playground.
<hr/>	
2007.1	All gifts of physical property to the North-South Skirmish Association, Inc. must be unconditional. The North-South Skirmish Association will accept donations of physical property only if offered free of restrictions, reservations, or conditions that limit in any way the N-SSA's future use and/or disposition of that property.
2007.2	Sitting members of the Board of Directors will not use the Open Forum to bring up their business.
2007.3	(Rescinded 01/2008)
<hr/>	
2008.1	Common Courtesy Policy: Unless previously agreed to by all affected parties, skirmish applications shall be submitted to and signed by the Regional Commander of the region in which the proposed skirmish is to be held.
2008.2	Non-discrimination Policy: The North-South Skirmish Association (the "N-SSA") is an equal opportunity association interested in qualified members without regard to race, color, religion, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, weight, height, age, national origin, citizenship status, veteran status, the presence of a medical condition that does not prohibit the member from participating in the activities of the N-SSA, disability or handicap, or any other legally protected status. This policy shall be printed on the inside cover of every edition of The Skirmish Rules..
2008.3	Initiation Fee: Effective January 2008, applications for new members of the N-SSA 21 years of age or older must be accompanied by a one-time \$25 initiation fee, which shall be deposited by the Paymaster into a capital land fund. <i>(Amended 2019)</i>
2008.4	If a member requests a replacement card at renewal time (between distribution of team renewal paperwork at the Fall Nationals and December 1 of that year), the cost of the replacement card shall be \$1.00. Once the renewal period expires (January 1 of the next year), the cost of a

- replacement card shall be \$3.00 until the next renewal period. This policy is effective January 2008.
2008.5 (Rescinded, January 2011)
- 2008.6 Policy 2007.3, which provided for regional range loans rather than regional range grants is revoked. We will return to the practice of grants for regional range development.
-
- 2009.1 Third party restricted funds when accepted by the N-SSA will be used for intended purposes within three (3) years. After three (3) years, the funds may be used by the N-SSA for the best use, as approved by the N-SSA Board of Directors.
- 2009.2 Unit commanders shall report all medical emergencies or injuries at official N-SSA skirmishes, whether in the campsite or on the ranges, to their Region Commander, who will, in turn, make a report of all such incidents to the Board of Directors.
- 2009.3 (Rescinded January 2010.)
-
- 2010.1 Any matter coming before the Board of Directors that offers criticism of, or purports to assign culpability to, named individuals, units, or regions should be presented only in executive session. The National commander, as presiding officer, is ultimately responsible for ensuring this, but this responsibility attaches likewise to each and every member of the Board of Directors as well as committee or staff officers filing reports.
- 2010.2 N-SSA Medical Parking Pass Policy
Skirmishers with State-issued handicapped license plates or placards are entitled to use the handicapped parking areas at Fort Shenandoah without the need for a special pass.

Skirmishers without a State-issued handicapped license placard may request an Emergency Medical Parking Pass for a particular National Skirmish from the Executive Secretary. (Amended August 2021)
- 2010.3 (Rescinded January 2012)
- 2010.4 The Board of Directors will not honor any requests for donations or grants outside the N-SSA unless and until the N-SSA's budget can be balanced without the use of prior year's equity and/or the postponing of necessary expenditures. Such requests will never be considered before the adoption of an operating budget.
-

- 2012.1 No individual or member organization may solicit donations of money, materials, or merchandise in the name of the N-SSA without permission of the Board of Directors.
- 2012.2 For purposes of implementing **Policy 2008.3**, a “new member” is defined as an individual who has never received a competitor number of the current series beginning with 00001.
- 2012.3 Permission for businesses and other organizations to use the N-SSA’s corporate and sesquicentennial logos may be granted only by the Board of Directors or its appointed designee.
- 2012.4 Business items that individuals or groups wish to have considered by the Board of Directors must be submitted to the BoD through their respective region commanders, or through the appropriate national officer, staff officer, or committee.
-
- 2013.1 Changes to the N-SSA Skirmish Rules may be made in the August and January meetings of the Board of Directors, or at other times when emergencies require. Changes that are not of an emergency nature will take effect on March 1 following their adoption.
- 2013.2 All items submitted to the Board of Directors for consideration which propose the expenditure of money must be simultaneously submitted directly to the Paymaster for the purpose of budgeting. Budget items not so submitted may not be considered by the BoD.
-
- 2014.1 Photographs of award winners will not be printed in The Skirmish Line unless recipients are in uniform, at least from the waist up.
-
- 2015.1 Firearms offered for sale or trade on the bulletin board must be:
1. Original black powder arms that qualify under *The Skirmish Rules* for use in N-SSA competition
 2. N-SSA approved replica firearms
 3. Replicas of other firearms of the Civil War period
 4. Collectable original military arms of models that predate 1898
- 2015.2 (Rescinded 01/2016)
-
- 2016.1 The Board of Directors may authorize, and establish procedures for, recruitment events to be held at National Skirmishes.
- 2016.2 The positions of Program Chairman, Property Management Chairman, Rules Chairman, and Small Arms Chairman are hereby re-designated as Staff Officers.
-

2017.1	Whenever possible, positions 23 and 24 (directly in front of the tower and the main range gateway) shall not be assigned for small arms company or mortar matches at national skirmishes.
2019.1	Any time a new range is found, at least two (2) members of the Board of Directors must examine it and give approval before it can be voted on by the Board of Directors for approval as a skirmish site.
2019.2	A fund shall be established to give assistance to skirmishers who have suffered catastrophic injuries or disasters. A review board of three (3) skirmishers will oversee applications. Money for this fund may come from budgeted monies, contributions from regions, member organizations, and individuals, or from any other source acceptable to the Board of Directors, and shall be used solely for this purpose.
2020.1	Range command scripts for National Skirmishes shall be written and modified by the Program Chair(s), with the approval of the National Commander or the Board of Directors. Announcers at national skirmishes are required to use the scripts supplied them. The scripts in the Skirmish Rules are the default scripts for regional skirmishes, and may be adapted and modified only with the approval of the Region Commander.
2021.1	All COVID-19 mandates, both state and federal, shall be followed for the state in which any Official Skirmish is held. (January 2021)
2021.2	<p>In order to properly disseminate information to the membership in a timely manner, it will be expected of the Skirmish Line Editor to publish as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Every Issue: Taps, Official N-SSA Contacts, New Recruits, and National Officer/Staff Officer/Committee Chair columns submitted.• Post January Board Meeting Issue: Approved Meeting Minutes, Yearly Financial Statement (as set forth per Article IX, Section 1(D) of the N-SSA Bylaws), information (if available) for the upcoming Spring National.• Post Spring National Issue: Results (all Team, Top 40 Individuals, Youth, Awards, plus Civilian Costume), Photos, Approved Minutes from the Board and Membership Meetings, Nominations for National Office (even years only).• Post August Board Meeting Issue: Approved Meeting Minutes, information (if available) for the upcoming Fall National.• Post Fall National Issue: Results (all Team, Top 40 Individuals, Youth, Awards, plus Civilian Costume), Photos, Approved Minutes from the Board and Membership Meetings. (August 2021)
2023.1	All members of N-SSA National Staffs and Committees shall be members in good standing of member units of the North-South Skirmish Association.

N-SSA Board Policy Index

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Policy number</u>
Alcoholic beverages	
Cannot be part of skirmish program	1998.2
Board of Directors meetings	
August meeting location	2015.2
BoD members cannot use the open forum	2007.1
Flight cancellation stay-over allowance	2004.12
Items critical of individuals, units, or regions	2010.1
Items, how to submit for consideration	2012.4
Items submitted after deadline may not be considered	1998.11
Minutes cannot be changed by individuals	1998.1
Motions must be submitted in writing	1998.4
Prep packages to be archived	1995.1
Rule change procedure	2004.13
Rule change proposal must reference existing rule	2004.10
Skirmishes may not be scheduled to conflict with	2004.1
Bridge passes	
For organizations	2000.2
Medical parking passes	2010.2
Budget expenditure requests	2013.2
Bulletin board, firearms allowed to be offered for sale	2015.1
Camper/trailer survey sheets	1995.2
Catastrophic injury/disaster relief fund	2019.2
COVID-19 mandates	2021.1
Dues	
Initiation fee	2008.3
Executive Secretary, need not be a member	1998.6
Fort Shenandoah	
Annual review of range-use fees	1995.3
Bridge passes for organizations	2000.2
Deadline for requests to use	1998.10
Playground rules	2006.1
Roads not to be named for skirmishers	2000.1

Work skirmish lunches	1999.4
Gifts to the N-SSA	
Physical property	2007.1
Third party restricted funds	2009.1
Historical Center, political cartoons banned	1998.9
Initiation fee	2008.3
“Lost and found” items at Fort Shenandoah	2004.5
Mailing lists may not be given out	2003.1, 2004.3
Medical emergencies/injuries at all skirmishes must be reported	2009.2
Membership card replacement	2008.4
Membership data may not be given out	2003.1, 2004.3
N-SSA logos, permission for use of	2012.3
N-SSA Staffs and Committees, members of	2023.1
Nameplates on trophies, required to be plastic	2003.3
National Skirmishes	
Company placement requests	1998.3
Proposed schedule to be included	1997.2
New member (individual) defined	2012.2
New member organizations, procedures	1996.1
New range approval process	2019.1
Non-discrimination	2008.2
Official correspondence, copy to appropriate region commander	2003.2
Participation by new members, national skirmishes	1997.1
Participation requirement to maintain membership	
Does not require national skirmish participation	2004.7
Defined as participation by a legal small arms company or a legal artillery crew	2004.8
Paymaster, need not be a member	1998.6
Photographs for <i>The Skirmish Line</i>	2014.1
Policies	
Only written will be recognized	1993.1
Political cartoons, banned from Historical Center	1998.9
Positions 23 and 24 are not to be assigned to companies or mortars	2017.1
Probationary organizations	
Members may hold committee and staff positions	1998.5
Members may hold regional offices	1998.5
Members may not hold elected national office	1998.5
Procedure for accepting	1996.1
Rights of members	1998.5
Seniority numbers	1999.1
Recruitment events at nationals	2016.1
Regional range development grants	2004.2
Regional skirmishes	
Held in other regions	2008.1
Request deadline	1991.1
Date submission deadline	2004.14
Repro firearms	

Non-production must be approved by the SAC	1998.7
Scripts for Regional and National Skirmishes	2020.1
Skirmish Line	
Publication schedule	2021.2
Skirmish Rules to be published annually	2013.1
Solicitation of donations for the N-SSA or its activities	2012.1
Waiver of dues for active-duty military deployed to a war zone	2004.15
Work skirmish lunches	1999.4