

Details on how to become a member of the Catawba Valley Rifle and Pistol Club (CVRPC)

The basic membership requirements are described in the CVRPC Bylaws in article III, as illustrated just below:

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ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP

(a) Any citizen of the United States eighteen (18) years of age may become a member of this organization on unanimous vote of the members present at a regular monthly meeting after satisfying the following conditions:

- (1) Subscribing to the following pledge: I CERTIFY that I am a citizen of the United States of America and that I am not a member of any organization or group which has any part of its program the attempt to overthrow the Government of the United States or any of its political subdivisions by force or violence, that I have never been convicted of a crime of violence, and if admitted to membership I will faithfully endeavor to fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship and good citizenship.*
- (2) Payment of the usual initiation fee and dues.*
- (3) Having attended three (3) regular monthly meetings.*
- (4) And other requirements as voted on by the membership from time to time at any regular monthly meeting.*

(b) Members are encouraged to attend at least six (6) meetings each year.

The maximum number of club members shall be one hundred twenty-five (125), not counting all club members who are sixty-two (62) or older.

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The actual membership process begins with the prospective member attending a regular monthly meeting of the CVRPC membership, which takes place the first Thursday of every month at 7:30PM. (There is no regular meeting in April.) The regular meetings are held at the indoor range meeting room on our club property, located at 4457 Rifle Range Road, Conover, NC, 28613. See the map on the third page for the location of the meeting room and safe range parking area. The gate to the range will be open at about 6PM on meeting nights. **Please do not drive onto the range beyond the parking area during your first visit to the property.**

Assuming that you are new to the Hickory/Conover area (or to the shooting sports in general), and are not being "sponsored" for membership by an existing CVRPC member with more than a one year membership in the club, the following will apply:

1. All CVRPC Members must maintain membership in the NRA. Prospective members will be required to show proof of current membership and to list their membership number on their application.
2. Arrive for the club meeting about 20-30 minutes early, and introduce yourself as a new perspective applicant for membership. Ask to be introduced to one of the club officers, who will be happy to answer any questions you might have. Please mingle, and make yourself at home before the meeting.
3. Inside the meeting room, a sign-in sheet will be passed around, and you should make sure that your name is added on the list as a guest.
4. At some point after the meeting starts, the President will ask if there are any guests in attendance. After raising your hand and being recognized, the Secretary will make sure that you are logged-into the meeting minutes as having attended your first of three required meetings. (This process will be repeated for the next two meetings you attend.)
5. Again, assuming you are not already being "sponsored" by 3 existing CVRPC members, it is incumbent upon you to arrange to shoot with as many existing members as practical before being voted on for membership at your third meeting. There is a general requirement that to be accepted for membership, you must have at least 3 sponsors, and this can be accomplished in several different ways:

- By participating in any of the regularly scheduled matches held at the club (nearly every weekend of the shooting season) and demonstrating safe shooting practices while in attendance. The details for these matches are on the club website calendar, and upcoming matches for the current month are usually discussed at the regular meetings. Please don't be bashful about asking questions.
 - By explaining during your introduction at the first meeting that you are without a sponsor, and would appreciate shooting with several existing members at a mutually convenient time. The officers of the club are generally at the range often, and will be happy to either shoot with you personally, or to put you in touch with a member that shares your shooting interests.
6. At some point during the initial 3 month introductory period, you will have to attend a "walk-around" range orientation session with the Executive Range Officer. Generally, the tour takes several hours, depending on how many are attending and how many questions there are. During this orientation, the range rules will be explained to you, and you will learn how to properly use the various ranges and targets that are available. This walk-around is mandatory, and no new member will be voted-in by the general membership until approved by the ERO. The walk-around does not follow a set schedule, and generally takes place no more than once a month. Again, it is incumbent upon the prospective new member to contact the ERO and make arrangements for the tour. To avoid delays in getting your range key, it is best to get this done early in your membership process in order to make sure that it has been completed by the third meeting.
 7. All prospective members will have to fill out a membership application form, which must be completed by the third meeting. If possible, try to get this done and handed in to the Secretary at the first meeting. The form can be obtained from the secretary at the meeting, but is also included here on the last page.
 8. At your third meeting, assuming you have already attended your walk-around and have enlisted the sponsorship of 3 existing members with more than one year of membership, you will be asked to leave the room while your status as a new prospective member is discussed. Your sponsors (as listed on the membership application) will be asked to speak for you and to give their opinion on your suitability for membership. After that, the members in attendance will vote on approval of your membership, and if passed unanimously, you will be welcomed into the club.
 9. After payment of your first year's dues, you will be given a key to the range by the treasurer. If you are joining the range in May, which is the beginning of the "membership year", your dues will be as follows: \$100 initiation fee plus \$165 yearly dues plus \$300 land assessment fee, for a total of \$565. If you are joining in any month other than May, your dues will be decreased appropriately. If you are 62 years of age or older, you will receive a discount on the yearly dues - see the treasurer for details. Additional dues discounts are also available for attending meetings and work parties throughout the year. The \$300 yearly land assessment payment for new members joining after April of 2012 will continue for a period of 5 years (totaling \$1500) after which time the land payments will cease.
 10. If you already have a sponsor, all the above applies, but it will be up to your sponsor to make sure that you have a total of 3 sponsors that have shot with you and are willing to attend your third meeting so that they can speak for you. Obviously, the more members you know and have shot with, the better your chances of being voted into membership.

On the following page there is an aerial picture of the range property, with labeling to show you where to park and where the meeting will be held. You are again reminded NOT to drive around the range areas (other than the parking field) until you have become familiar with the property and have been instructed by the ERO.

On the last page the application form is provided. Copies will be available from the secretary, but it will be easier if you print out the form and bring it to the first meeting.

Good shooting,

Lonnie Hagadorn,
CVRPC Secretary



Google Earth View of CVRPC Range Property, circa 2011

Catawba Valley Rifle & Pistol Club
Application for Membership
(Please Print or Type)

Applicant Information:

Date: _____
Full Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____
Email Address: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____
Occupation: _____
Marital Status: _____ Spouse's Name: _____
Blood Type: _____ Physical Defects: _____
Military Service: _____ Type of Discharge: _____ Military Rank: _____
Have you ever been convicted of a felony? _____
List the organizations of which you are a member: _____

NRA Membership (Check One) Annual _____ Life _____ NRA Membership No.: _____
Do you have any type of firearms instructor rating? _____ If so, what? _____

List 3 current club members as references:

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____

Emergency Contact Information: (In case of injury.)

Full Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

I hereby certify that I am a citizen of the United States of America and that I am not a member of any organization or group which has as any of its program; the attempt to overthrow the government of the United States of America or any of its political subdivisions by force or violence; that I have never been convicted of a crime of violence; and if admitted to membership, I will faithfully endeavor to fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship and good citizenship.

Meetings Dates Attended:

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____

Applicant's Signature

Date