

El Dorado Gun Club Officers & Board Meeting
Lower Range
Opened: 5:00 PM Adjourned: 6:05 PM

September 14, 2020

Officers Present: Dick Cox, President; Bob St. Amour, Vice President; Sandra Longcor, Treasurer; Sharon Denton, Secretary

Board Present: Doug Becker, Dave Longcor, Mickey Razy, Tony Garcia, Pam Nessenson, Fred Librach, Charlie Freeland

Absent: Jim Peet
Mike Worley

Members & Guests present: 34

Quorum: Yes.

Minutes: The motion was made, seconded and unanimous vote to accept the minutes for August 10, 2020 meeting as previously emailed to the officers and board.

President's Report: The following letter was received and was sent to all active members of the El Dorado Gun Club. Dick opened the floor to attendees and board to a lengthy discussion of the items in the letter.

Letter to the EDGC Board of Directors

Hi Dick,

Attached is a letter that was drafted by a number of active members of the EDGC that they asked if I would forward to you and share with the Board.

The letter summarizes some concerns they have based on past procedural actions taken by the Board and recommendations moving forward.

Perhaps make this an item of "new" business" to discuss at the next general member meeting?

If you have any questions, call me and I'll try to answer them.

Tony Rabe

916-597-2068

Attachment follows:

September 10, 2020

To: EDGC Board of Directors & Officers

Re: EDGC Management and Board Activities 2020

Please be advised that many of us EDGC Members in good standing have noted a substantial decline in board transparency and general member involvement in board decisions, policy and rulemaking. We ask the Board to return to the rules of good order, open and transparent meetings, properly documented, timely published meetings minutes and the proactive solicitation of member inputs into policy proposals before ratification and implementation.

The following observations and suggestions relate to two broad topics – Board of Directors (BoD) protocol and Range Access and Fee Structures. The suggestions are meant to be proactive rather than accusatory and are intended for the betterment of our club.

2020 Board Meetings

Through 2020 to date, the EDCG Board has met intermittently and most meetings have been designated “Closed” Meetings. This has not been the historic practice for the El Dorado Gun Club. Although it is understandable that April & May Meetings were canceled due to extraordinary COVID19 circumstances.

While BoD meetings did resume in June, with additional sessions in July and August, these Regular Meetings have been inexplicably closed to members - the time, place, agendas and attendance have not been publicly announced in advance.

- **June & July** were “closed meetings” although some regular members were quietly ‘invited to attend’ while the general membership was excluded.
- **August** General Meeting was scheduled for August 10, 2020 but then ‘*canceled*’ just days before the general meeting was to be held. The BoD met anyway, in a private, preventing general membership attendance, input and public comment on Club business, both old and new.
- If COVID19 protocols are a concern regarding public gatherings, organizations from the EL Dorado County Board of Supervisors to local Yoga studios have adapted to distancing & cover requirements for physical meetings and extended via Zoom or teleconferencing technologies to conform with organization Rules of Good Order and management. We do not see the COVID pandemic as a legitimate reason to limit members input and access to standard board meetings. Adaptations can be made.

We note that the Club By-Laws do not discuss “Closed Meetings”, although we recognize the BoD may call “Special Meetings” to attend to interim election, by the Regular Members, of a new Director when a current director is removed, retires or withdraws. We believe that closed or special meetings attended only by board members should be the exception and very rare in their occurrence.

The only other foreseeable “Special Circumstances” for ‘Closed BoD Meeting’ would be the rare case of **legal issues related to the club (civil/criminal liability)** requiring confidentiality & attorney client privileges **OR sensitive personnel matters** implicating negligence or improper behavior of members, directors or officers of the club. These matters understandably require privacy and confidentiality. In such cases, we would expect that the closed “Special Meeting” address only the legal or sensitive personnel matters **and NOT items of general interest, regular business, ongoing proposals, etc.**

Members recognize and appreciate that the BoD has made good efforts in improving the physical assets of The Club, adding much appreciated sanitary facilities, clarifying rules and managing the efficient utilization of all range facilities.

However, some of the newer rules would appear to have been ratified by the Board without documented discussion of the rationale, alternative views, or the solicitation of the general membership or other directly affected parties for input or comments. This method lacks transparency and challenges the credibility of the BoD, creating a lack of confidence in BoD actions.

- I. **To increase transparency & member participation,**
We ask to Board of Director and Officers of the EDGC to Recognize the following:

- 1) The EDGC is a Non-Profit Organization and unlike other local Ranges which are for profit private businesses. We might all benefit from crafting a “**Mission Statement**” where goals, policies and programs for our Non-Profit Club are aligned the Mission that serves the entire membership
- 2) For proper order and management and decision making the Board should adopt the *Robert’s Rules of Order*** as their practice for official meetings. This is standard practice for similar non-profit and for profit organizations in establishing openness and fairness in policy making.
- 3) **Minimum practices should include:**
 - a) Restoring proper & timely notification of “Open” BoD meetings where *General Members are welcome to attend and contribute either by interactive participation or minimally, by “Public Comment”*, before decisions are made or proposals are ratified.
 - b) Scheduling with public notification of BoD Meetings- venue and agenda, at least 3 weeks in advance. If physical attendance by Members is limited (COVID or other reasons), alternative ‘virtual’ methods should be used to expand attendance and input via Zoom/Teleconference support.
 - c) **Pre-published Agendas** for Monthly BoD Meetings that detail regular business, new proposals or items to be addressed at the upcoming meeting. Items not the agenda shall not be addressed at the time, but added to the agenda of a future meeting as new business, with the concurrence of the BoD. **Agendas need to be published at least 3 weeks in advance** for due consideration by Directors and Regular Members alike.
 - d) BoD Members, as representatives of the General Membership should solicit input from members on upcoming items of interest and offer access for direct member input if members desire.
 - e) Well documented Meeting Minutes that capture the **objectives of proposals, rationale, and any opposing views or concerns on a given proposal** should be published for general membership review no more than two weeks after each meeting.
 - f) All material proposals shall be ratified by utilizing a **Roll-Call Vote of the Board Members** and summarized in the Minutes.

Items of Recent Policy Change Concern to the Members:

- II. All EDGC Members should be treated fairly and Equitably under ALL new policies and procedures.
 1. Recent policies on range access set up different ‘classes’ of members with separate rules, financial, scheduling, and minimum participant count requirements.
Many in General Membership think this is unfair and inequitable and not in the spirit of Club’s Mission nor non-profit intent. Any new policies should treat all Members the same in rules, costs and scheduling requirements.

We ask that you make this Letter of Concern available to all Active Members to solicit their inputs and concurrence on our Recommendations to more effective Board Activities, Policy Proposals and Management.

Footnotes:

** Standard Rules of Order for Non-Profits:

Robert’s Rules of Order, was developed to ensure that meetings are fair, efficient, democratic and orderly. A skilled chairperson allows all members to voice their opinions in an orderly manner so that everyone in the meeting can hear and be heard. The following [tips and reminders](#) will help chairpersons to run a successful and productive meeting without being run over or running over others.

- Follow the agenda to keep the group moving toward its goals.
- Let the group do its own work; don't over-command.
- Control the flow of the meeting by recognizing members who ask to speak.
- Let all members speak once before allowing anyone to speak a second time.
- When discussions get off-track, gently guide the group back to the agenda.
- Model courtesy and respect, and insist that others do the same.
- Help to develop the board's skills in parliamentary procedure by properly using motions and points of order.
- Give each speaker your undivided attention.
- Keep an emotional pulse on the discussions.
- Allow a consensus to have the final authority of the group.

After discussion, the Secretary will publish the agenda on the EDGC's webpage. A meeting will be set for the For-Profit Instructors to meet with the Officers & Board to discuss in greater detail about the fee structure.

Vice President & Senior Range Manager Report: Bob reported that the Range Safety Officer class was held on 8/15/2020, Dexter Tahara instructing with seven club members in attendance. The Range Safety Officer first-aid class will be held over four different days and two locations. TBD.

Shooting after hours at the ranges needs to stop. Surveillance cameras will be installed.

Emergency phone is in the connex set up to call 530-626-4911 (El Dorado County Sheriff's Dispatch).

A participant at the USPSA match was hit with a piece of shrapnel that lodged in his calf. The participant is okay.

Thank you to Charlie for cleaning out the connex and reinforcing the shelving.

Secretary's Report: Sharon reported on the Club's membership by category:

Annual	166
Life	110
Senior	212
Total Active Members	488
New Members for 2020	113

Treasurer's Report: Sandy reported the following are the balances for our accounts as of August 31, 2020:

Checking Account	\$55,258.71
Savings Account	\$40,130.23
EV Account	\$22130.19
USPSA Account	\$ 4,755.45

Sandy contacted our insurance company to give them an accurate count of the Club's active membership. The club will receive a refund of \$3207.98.

Report of Committees:

Pistol/Rifle Range: No report

Trap Range: Mickey reported that there was a registered shoot with 18 shooters. Several Juniors also came out to participate.

The target order will be picked up on 9/23/2020 and delivered on 9/24/2020 at 8 AM. Volunteers are needed to help move the targets up to the trap range.

Old Business: Alexa Rauchfuss expressed her thanks to Doug Becker for the repairs to the dump trailer. The Officers & Board members second that thanks.

New Business: Nominations are open for Officers & four Board members. The following are the nominations:

El Dorado Gun Club Nominations for 2021

President	Dick	Cox	Incumbent
Vice President	Robert	St.Amour	Incumbent
Secretary	Sharon	Denton	Incumbent
Treasurer	Sandra	Longcor	Incumbent
Board of Directors	Doug	Becker	Incumbent
Vote for only 4	Mickey	Razy	Incumbent
	Pam	Nessenson	Incumbent
	Fred	Librach	Incumbent
	Dexter	Tahara	
	Bart	Petterle	
	Dominick	Attisani	
	Dave	Richter	
	Tony	Rabe	

Nominations are now closed but will be open again at the October general membership meeting. Nominations have to be made in person at the general membership meeting.

The motion was made, seconded and unanimous vote for Dave to purchase one set of Steel Challenge's stages, not to exceed \$1700.00.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Thanks to all attendees for coming to this meeting.

Next General Membership meeting: October 12, 2020, at the El Dorado Gun Club Pistol range, at 5:00 PM SHARP.