

VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

GUN SHOW- RULES and GUIDELINES

I. PURPOSE and INTENT

The primary purpose of the Virginia Gun Collectors Association (VGCA) is to encourage and advance the hobby of collecting firearms for their historic, cultural, and artistic merits. Achievements in advancing gun collecting knowledge are recognized. Increasing public appreciation for our national firearms heritage is rewarded. The traditional shooting sports are encouraged. The VGCA endeavors to promote the highest ethical standards among gun dealers and collectors and to preserve our Second Amendment rights by presenting a favorable image of the private ownership of firearms to the general public. The intent of these rules and guidelines is to ensure the association's purposes are furthered by its gun shows.

II. SHOW TABLES and EXHIBITOR TYPES

Two distinctly separate kinds of exhibit tables are available to qualified exhibitors: Display-Only tables are for educational exhibits; Sales tables are for commercial or private sales. Exhibitors may be federally licensed firearms dealers, association members, or members of the collecting community.

DISPLAY-ONLY. Educational exhibits are encouraged under a VGCA awards program. These exhibits compete according to defined judging criteria for cash prizes. Items on Display-Only' tables may not be sold or offered for sale at the show.

Exhibitors who apply for Display-Only tables must submit the title of the exhibit to the VGCA Show Committee 60 days before the scheduled show date. Failure to submit the title can result in forfeiture of the Display-Only tables. The registered exhibitor cannot convert these tables to Sales tables.

A written description of the display is suggested. Copies should be in the hands of the judges no later than noon on Saturday.

The judging criteria and scoring system are described in the following Table:

VGCA Display-Only Table Judging Criteria	Maximum Points
1. Educational Factors Score (40 Points Maximum)	
1.A Title: Simple understandable Title	5
1.B.1 Contents: Match of Guns to the Title	5
1.B.2 Contents: Stated explanation of the Title	10
1.C Labeling: Every gun identified / described	10
1.D.1 Related Items: Accessory items displayed	5
1.D.2 Related Items: Each Accessory identified / described	5
2. Display Contents Score (45 Points Maximum)	
2.A Selection Criteria: Stated rationale for gun selection	5
2.B Completeness of Presentation: Display agrees with Title & Selection Criteria	10
2.C.1 Extent of Original Condition: Comparable finish / quality of guns	10
2.C.2 Extent of Original Condition: Comparable finish / quality of accessories	5
2.D Rarity: Relative rarity of items	10
2.E Importance: Associated collector / historical interest	5
3. General Audience Appeal Score (15 Points Maximum)	
3.A Appearance: Display appearance and understandability	10
3.B Construction: Relative creativity / skill shown in display	5
Maximum Total:	100

SALES. All items on Sales tables are presumed to be offered for sale. Dealers who hold Federal Firearms Licenses may bring their wares for sale. VGCA members and others who are "Collectors Only" may bring their wares for sale. All exhibitors holding Sales tables are expected to abide by the rules set forth by the Federal Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the VGCA.

III. RULES

VGCA gun shows are conducted according to the following rules and guidelines. These rules and guidelines may be amended by the Show Committee as described in the VGCA Bylaws, and are subject to ratification by the VGCA Executive Committee.

- A. Safety is the first consideration in the conduct of VGCA shows. All firearms for display or sale shall be unloaded and are subject to initial and subsequent inspections. Cartridge firearms must be tied or made otherwise inaccessible to the general public. Exhibitors and attendees will fully cooperate with the Safety and Show Committees to ensure strict observance of firearms safety practices.
- B. Firearms will be carried to and from the show in a manner that will least attract attention. Attendees "firearms" will be tied before entry is permitted and detachable magazines must be removed from those firearms at all times.
- C. All exhibitors that remove a plastic ties from a firearm for inspection are required to replace the plastic tie upon completion of the inspection.
- D. Handguns shall not be worn in holsters or carried in belts. They may be boxed, cased, or carried in the hand. Concealed carry permit holders with a concealed firearm are expected to keep their guns concealed.
- E. Rented table space includes only the area directly on top of and beneath the table. It does not include aisle space in front or to the side of tables.
- F. Friday evening and Saturday morning set up hours are open to VGCA members, exhibitors, and authorized agents with issued identification badges.
- G. Advertisements (handbills, show flyers, etc.) acceptable to the Show Committee may be displayed only at a designated table.
- H. Intoxicating drinks and drugs are not permitted on the premises. Intoxicated persons shall be denied entry.
- I. Pets are prohibited unless an exemption is obtained from the Show Committee.
- J. Non-official use of two-way communication is prohibited.
- K. Exhibitors are individually responsible for their displayed material and must comply with Federal, State, and local laws.
- L. The VGCA is not responsible for materials lost or stolen. It is recommended that receipts be obtained for items bought, sold, or traded.
- M. The VGCA reserves the right to deny exhibit space for any display or items, which, in its opinion, do not conform to the guidelines listed below.

IV. EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

- A. Exhibit materials are restricted to small arms and small-arms-related items. Related items include small-arms parts, ammunition, components (except black powder), reloading equipment, sights, and targets. Publications; photographs; artwork; memorabilia; and documents describing small-arms design, manufacture, history, and use which presents a favorable image of the private ownership of firearms are encouraged.
- B. Prohibited Categories: The following categories are prohibited. The list is not intended to be all inclusive; it is intended to indicate typical materials which may not be displayed at VGCA shows.
1. Antiques not directly firearms related
 2. Archery equipment
 3. Artwork not directly firearms related
 4. Clothing (Competitive shooting jackets permitted)
 5. Coins or other numismatic items
 6. Destructive devices as defined by BATF or models thereof
 7. Flags (except U.S. and State properly displayed)
 8. Full-automatic (Class 3) firearms
 9. Ground or vehicle mounted weapons or models thereof
 10. Jewelry
 11. Knives (except military edged weapons)
 12. Mercenary (Soldier of Fortune) type publications
 13. Militaria not directly firearms related
 14. Nazi, neo-Nazi, KKK, etc. items and literature
 15. Paramilitary equipment and publications
 16. Conversion parts or conversion kits for full-automatic weapons
 17. Photographic equipment
 18. Police equipment
 19. Political items
 20. Pyrotechnics
 21. Silencers/suppressors or parts thereof
 22. Sporting goods not directly firearms related
 23. Survival equipment and publications
 24. Tools not directly firearms related
- C. Permissible Exceptions and Procedure: Exhibitors may propose exceptions to generally prohibited materials. Proposals shall be submitted to the Show Committee in writing, giving the exceptional merits of the items proposed together with any available supporting documentation. Decision shall be by majority vote of the committee after firsthand examination of the materials. Approved proposals shall be signed and dated by the Show Committee Chairman.

V. TABLE SALES

- A. Completed signed VGCA applications for table space shall be accepted upon release of the show flyers/application. Substitution of anything other than the official VGCA application form dated for a specific show will not be accepted.
- B. Current table holders in good standing* who wish to retain the same tables at the next show shall have priority over other applicants until 12 noon. on the Saturday of the show.
- C. A new waiting list shall be established for all applicants, and tables shall be assigned on a first-come basis after the above deadline.
- D. Written confirmation of table reservations shall be issued upon receipt of a signed table application and table fee paid in full.
- E. After all tables have been sold or otherwise committed, applicants will be automatically placed on a waiting list on a first-come basis. Table fees received with such applications shall be returned if the applicant notifies the show director that he wishes to withdraw from the waiting list. If the requested number of tables subsequently becomes available due to a cancellation or other reason, waiting list applicants shall be contacted in the order their applications were received. Applicants who do not receive a table shall have their checks returned.
- F. Reserved table space will be for the use of the applicant only and may not be reassigned to others by the applicant. If assigned table space cannot be occupied by the applicant, coapplicant, or designated employee the VGCA Show Director should be notified as soon as possible so that reassignment can be made. Table refunds shall be made only if notification of cancellation is received by the VGCA 14 days prior to the show date. Applicants may choose to apply the payment forward to the next show and will be listed first on the waiting list described in paragraph C.
- G. Tables not occupied by 10 a.m. Saturday shall be reassigned unless notification of late arrival is received in advance. Reassignments shall be made to waiting list applicants who have registered on a "Standby List" at the registration desk prior to 10 a.m. The order of application, the minimum number of tables requested, and the number of available tables will dictate the priority order for table reassignments.
- H. VGCA reserves the right to hold a predetermined number of tables for Display-Only purposes. If any designated Display-Only tables are not reserved by exhibitors two weeks prior to the show date, they will be offered to waiting-list applicants as commercial sales tables.

* Table holders in good standing shall be defined as exhibitors who have exhibited at three consecutive shows. As long as table holders continue to comply with the letter and spirit of the show rules, they shall remain in good standing. The Show Committee, by majority vote, may judge an exhibitor ineligible for priority status or, in extreme cases, cause indefinite suspension for any rules violation or for the following:

- 1. Conduct that reflects poorly on responsible gun owners
- 2. Failure to comply with Show, Safety, or Security Committee directives
- 3. Failure to occupy tables on Sunday without advance notice
- 4. Failure to vacate tables in a timely manner at the close of the show

VI. DISCRETION AND DECISION

The Show Committee, with a minimum of three (3) members present, is solely responsible for the interpretation and enforcement of the foregoing rules and guidelines. Discretion of the Show Committee is absolute. Decisions of the Show Committee are final.

VII. RATIFICATION

These rules and guidelines were unanimously approved by the VGCA Executive Committee on June 26, 2002