

NATSHOOT CODE OF DISCIPLINE

GUIDELINES

1. The primary goal of the code is to present a set of guidelines to imprint the serious importance of legal use of firearms and firearm safety on members, so as to protect co-shooters, co-hunters, members of the public, and domesticated animals against injury or harm caused by the purposeful or negligent use of firearms – this aspect is primary and takes precedence over all other aspects of the Code.
2. The Code presents guidelines for appropriate compliance with the law in terms of stipulations of the Firearms Control Act (Act 60 of 2000 as amended), relevant nature conservation regulations and local ordinances that might have relevance on the participation in the Hunt and in the sport shooting by members of the NHSA.
3. The disciplinary code must be read with all sets of regulations and codes of the Natshoot as they may be set from time to time, and which are all meant to be guidelines for conduct in the field and on the range (thus a system of shared values). They are not meant to be sets of technical regulations for which ways to escape implementation should be sought.
4. The implementation and enforcement of the code of discipline in the NHSA will be done in the context of legal use, then of firearm safety, and then good sportsmanship, good comradeship, and within the principles of respect for life and respect for fellow hunters and sport shooters.
5. The body for discipline in the NHSA is the Executive Council (the NHSA legal advisor(s) will not be part of this body as s/he is the instance of Appeals).

TRANSGRESSIONS

A. CATEGORY 1 TRANSGRESSION

Action: immediate expulsion from Natshoot – without warning. No pro-rata refund of membership fees with immediate notification to SAPS (Flash) & (CFR) of the action taken against the member

- i. Deliberate or accidentally committing an act with a firearm in gross disregard of the Natshoot safety code, and in a manner which could have hurt or killed a person or domesticated animal.
- ii. Conviction in a court of law of any criminal offence involving an element of violence
- iii. Conviction in a court of law of contravention of the Firearms Control Act (Act 60 of 2000 as amended), and which results in the withdrawal of a firearms licence.
- iv. Deliberate disregard of any Provincial hunting and wildlife regulations, which pertain to the Hunt or in respect of the conservation of wildlife.
- v. Proven falsification of any Natshoot documentation, or attempts to deface Natshoot documentation with unauthorised alterations, or rendering of false declarations to obtain membership of Natshoot or of dedicated status under auspices of Natshoot;
- vi. Proven fraudulent act regarding any activity conducted so as to claim membership of, or dedicated status with, or to maintain dedicated status with Natshoot;
- vii. Repetition of a Category 2 transgression within 18 months of the original ruling by the Executive Council.

B. CATEGORY 2 TRANSGRESSIONS

Action: compulsory temporary suspension for 6 months with single final warning

- i. Wilful and large-scale transgression of any of the stipulations of any clause of the codes of conduct of the Natshoot.
- ii. Unintentional and unwitting transgression of any of the stipulations of national or provincial sets of regulations or ordinances with relevance to the Hunt or sport-shooting or the conservation of wildlife.
- iii. Omission of a member to report a co-member of committing a category 1 transgression to the Executive Council, or to take on the spot action to stop such transgression, or for not taking on the spot appropriate action to protect the lives of people or of domesticated animals
- iv. Action against land owners or land occupiers, members of the public, or co-members which brings the good name of the Natshoot or of the Hunt and/or sport shooting into disrepute – or through omission which has the same effect.

C. CATEGORY 3 TRANSGRESSIONS

Action: warning – discretionary action in accordance with the nature and intensity of circumstances

- i. Transgression of the stipulations of the codes of conduct of the Natshoot
- ii. Three independent charges laid against the same person by different land owners, land occupiers, or co-members.
- iii. Purposeful or unwitting actions, which bring the good name of Natshoot or of the Hunt or of sports-shooting as activity into disrepute.

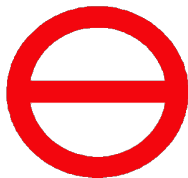
PROCEDURE

6. All disciplinary actions must comply with all elements of the natural rights of the individual and of fairness in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.
7. Under no circumstances will the identity of the person(s) who lay charges be made known to the implied member(s); with the understanding that the Executive Council must be very certain of the reasons why they would take disciplinary action against a member as any action of this nature has a direct bearing on the accused's legal ownership of firearms
8. All disciplinary actions against Natshoot members are conducted in camera and are confidential
9. There are two procedures regarding disciplinary action that can be taken:
 - 9.1 **First an immediate process** (usually leading to immediate expulsion) - related to **Category 1 Transgressions**
 - 9.1.1 In all instances of members being proven guilty, SAPS (Flash) and SAPS (CFR) will immediately be informed of the action taken and in the worst-case scenarios Natshoot will bring charges of fraud against such individual(s)).
 - 9.1.2 Appeal may be directed at the Natshoot Legal Representative(s), whose finding in the matter is final (for as far as it concerns procedures taken by Natshoot against the proven to be guilty member). Appeal on failed Appeals can be directed to the courts.

- 9.2 **Second; a longer process** related to **Category 2 & 3 Transgressions**
- 9.2.1 During the sitting of the Executive Council (discipline) the implied member must be given ample opportunity to state his/her case as to why s/he should not be found guilty or have time to supply proof why s/he is not guilty of the accusation
- 9.2.2 An implied member may only be represented by a member of the Natshoot during sittings of the Executive Council (discipline), and no legal representation of any nature will be allowed
- 9.2.3 Only members of the Executive Council, the implied member(s) and his/her representative, as well as members called as witnesses, may be present during sittings of the Executive Council (discipline).
- 9.2.4 All disciplinary actions implemented against members must be implemented as consensus decisions of the Executive Council.
- 9.2.5 In instances where the Executive Council (Discipline) cannot reach consensus on a decision the implied member(s) will be declared not guilty, and the case will be considered as concluded, with no further action that can be taken against the implied member(s) in respect of the same allegation(s) again.
- 9.2.6 A decision of the Executive Council (Discipline), with motivated charge and reasons for the decision reached, is presented in written form to the implied member(s).
- 9.2.7 The Implied member(s) have the right to appeal which will be taken under consideration by Natshoot's legal advisor(s), the decision of this person is final and binding on all parties.

10. Implied members who are challenged to appear before the Executive Council (Discipline) in terms of transgression as described above, must be informed of the date, place and time of such hearing 21 days before the hearing takes place, and must also be furnished with a full written reason for being challenged to appear before the Executive Council (Discipline).

11. All of the above-described disciplinary hearings processes must preferably be concluded and concluded in virtual meetings, after initial processes will be concluded only in writing.



Do not go here !

