



# VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.NET

Est. 1983 (A Non-Profit Organization)

NRA Affiliate Number G8162



P.O. Box 328, Manassas, VA 20108-0328

## GUN SHOW RULES and GUIDELINES

### 1. 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 Gun Show Rules and Guidelines is to ensure the Association's purposes are furthered by its gun shows.

### 2. SHOW TABLE TYPES: Two distinctly separate kinds of table types are available to qualified exhibitors:

- a. **DISPLAY-ONLY TABLES:** Educational exhibits are encouraged, are judged by their merits as shown in Appendix A and may qualify for an award. No sales items may be placed on Display-only tables. The registered exhibitor cannot convert these tables to Sales tables without approval of the Show Manager and payment of the applicable sales table rental fee.
- b. **SALES TABLES:** All items on sales tables are presumed to be offered for sale. All exhibitors holding Sales tables are required to abide by the laws and rules set forth by the Federal Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, Local jurisdiction and the VGCA.

### 3. RULES: VGCA Gun Shows are conducted according to the following Rules and Guidelines:

- a. No smoking or open flames are allowed in the building. Smoking outside at least 25 feet from entrances is allowed.
- b. All VGCA Gun Shows shall be registered with the Virginia State Police and the local Chief Law Enforcement Officer (CLEO) at least 30 days in advance in accordance with Virginia Code.
- c. 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. All firearms must be tied to make inoperable or made otherwise inaccessible to the public. Exhibitors and attendees will fully cooperate with the Safety and Show Committees to ensure strict observance of firearms safety practices.
- d. All firearms brought into the show by attendees will be unloaded and tied to make inoperable before entry is permitted. Detachable magazines must be removed from those firearms at all times.
- e. All exhibitors that remove a plastic tie from a firearm for inspection are required to replace the plastic tie upon completion of the inspection.
- f. Handguns shall not be worn in holsters or carried in belts. They may be boxed, cased, or carried in the hand. Concealed weapons or loaded weapons are not allowed except by sworn law enforcement personnel with presentation of valid identification from their agency.
- g. Loose ammunition is not permitted in the gun show or displayed on tables. All ammunition must be secured in boxes, bags or other containers. Loose ammunition may be part of a display-only table, but should not be accessible to the public.
- h. Loaded magazines are NOT permitted in the gun show. Do not bring loaded magazines into the building. You will be asked to unload the magazine and remove ammunition from the building.
- i. 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. The shared aisle used by table holders shall not be blocked in any way; items shall not protrude into the shared aisle space.
- j. Friday evening and Saturday morning set up hours are open only to VGCA setup volunteers, VGCA security volunteers, and table exhibitors / vendors displaying a valid identification badge.

- k. Advertisements (handbills, show flyers, etc.) acceptable to the Show Committee may be displayed only at a designated table.
- l. Intoxicating drinks and drugs are not permitted on the premises or at any VGCA gun show. Intoxicated persons shall be denied entry and / or escorted out of the show.
- m. Pets are prohibited unless an exemption is obtained from the Show Committee. Authorized service animals are exempt and are permitted.
- n. Exhibitors are individually responsible for their displayed material and must comply with Federal, State, and local laws.
- o. The VGCA is not responsible for materials lost or stolen. It is recommended that receipts be obtained for items bought, sold, or traded.
- p. 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.
- q. **No black powder in any amount is allowed in the building.**
- r. Any damage caused by a vendor or exhibitor or anyone associated with them by person or other means such as vehicle damage will be held fully responsible and liable for damages and restitution to repair or replace damaged items.

#### 4. GUIDELINES FOR DISPLAY-ONLY AND SALES TABLES:

- a. Exhibit materials are restricted to firearms and firearms related items. Related items include firearms parts, ammunition, components (except black powder), reloading equipment, sights, and targets. Publications; photographs; artwork; memorabilia; and documents describing firearms design, manufacture, history, and use which present a favorable image of the private ownership of firearms are encouraged.
- b. **PROHIBITED CATEGORIES:** The following categories are prohibited. The list is not all inclusive; it is intended to indicate typical materials which may not be displayed at VGCA shows:
  - 1) Antiques not directly firearms related.
  - 2) Artwork not directly firearms related.
  - 3) Clothing (Competitive shooting jackets and genuine military clothing is allowed).
  - 4) Coins or other numismatic items.
  - 5) Flags (except U.S. and State Flags properly displayed). A small flag may be displayed in context with a historical or educational display table scheduled for judging. (See prohibition regarding Nazi flags in Number 11 below.)
  - 6) Jewelry and watches.
  - 7) Knives (with the following permitted exceptions: original military edged weapons; hand-made or custom knives; and knives marketed by firearms manufacturers.)
  - 8) Mercenary (Soldier of Fortune) type publications.
  - 9) Militaria not directly firearms related and/or copies, replicas, or counterfeits of militaria are prohibited. Genuine firearms related or collectible militaria are allowed.
  - 10) Ku Klux Klan, racist or white supremacist items or literature.
  - 11) Nazi or neo-Nazi items glorifying Nazism, busts of Nazi leaders, uniforms, arm bands, propaganda literature or recordings, or display of flags. Firearms, edged weapons, medals and helmets are acceptable in reasonable quantities.
  - 12) Paramilitary equipment and publications.
  - 13) Photographic equipment.
  - 14) Police equipment unless it is directly firearms related.
  - 15) Political items.
  - 16) Pyrotechnic items.
  - 17) Black powder in cans, kegs, or other containers. (as per Virginia Fire Code)
  - 18) Sporting goods not directly firearms related.
  - 19) Survival equipment or camping equipment.
  - 20) Tools not directly firearms related.
  - 21) All food items such as meat jerky, trail mixes, meals ready to eat, etc.
- c. **PERMISSIBLE EXCEPTIONS AND PROCEDURE:** Exhibitors may propose exceptions to prohibited materials. Proposals shall be submitted to the Show Committee in writing, stating the exceptional merits of the items proposed together with any available supporting documentation. Decision shall be by the Show Committee after review and



## Appendix A:

# VGCA Display-only Table Judging Criteria

Judging Criteria		Maximum Points
<b>1. Educational Factors Score (40 Points Maximum)</b>		
1.A	Title: Clear & simple title/theme is evident	5
1.B.1	Content: Displayed firearms support Title/Theme	10
1.B.2	Content: Significance adequately explained in display and/ or handout material	10
1.C	Labeling: All items displayed are adequately identified & described	10
1.D	Related Items: Accessory items (if any) support the Title/Theme and are adequately identified & described	5
<b>2. Display Contents Score (35 Points Maximum)</b>		
2.A	Completeness of Presentation: Display items represent the full scope of the subject matter	10
2.B	Condition: Comparable finish/quality of items displayed	10
2.C	Rarity: Relative availability of displayed items	5
2.D	Importance: Historical significance / collector interest	10
<b>3. General Audience Appeal Score (25 Points Maximum)</b>		
3.A	Appearance: Display neatness & understandability	10
3.B	Construction: Creativity, design, workmanship & security measures that do not detract	5
3.C	Text: Clear, concise & readable	10
<b>Maximum Total</b>		<b>100</b>