



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSN., INC.

WWW.VGCA.NET



Est. 1983 (A Not for 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 a safe show, and ensure that 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) Exhibitors and attendees will fully cooperate with the Safety and Show Committees to ensure strict observance of firearms safety practices.
- d) All firearms transactions are to be done in full compliance with all applicable Federal, State and Local laws.
- e) All firearms for display or sale shall be unloaded and are subject to initial and subsequent inspections.
- f) All firearms must be tied to make them 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. The VGCA will provide zip ties to table holders and exhibitors.
- g) All firearms brought into the show by the public will be tied before entry is permitted and detachable magazines must be removed from those firearms at all times.
- h) All exhibitors who remove a plastic tie from a firearm for inspection are required to replace the plastic tie upon completion of the inspection.
- i) 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.

- j) 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 judged educational display, but should not be accessible to the public.
- k) 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 or remove it from the building.
- l) Rented table space normally includes the areas on top of and beneath the table. The public aisles in front of tables shall not be blocked in any way, items shall not impede public foot traffic or shared aisle space between tables.
- m) 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.
- n) Exhibitors, table holders, their principals, constituents, suppliers, subcontractors, employees, partners, helpers, or volunteers, will wear their show badges so they are easily visible to show security. Persons without show badges issued by VGCA may be denied entry.
- o) Exhibitors are individually responsible for their displayed material and must comply with Federal, State, and local laws. The VGCA is not responsible for materials lost or stolen. It is recommended that receipts be obtained for items bought, sold, or traded.
- p) Friday evening and Saturday morning set up hours are open only to VGCA setup volunteers, VGCA security volunteers, and table holders, exhibitors/vendors, and their helpers displaying a valid identification badge.
- q) Advertisements (handbills, show flyers, etc.) acceptable to the Show Committee may be displayed only at a designated table.
- r) Pets are prohibited unless an exemption is obtained from the Show Committee. Authorized service animals are exempt and are permitted.
- s) The VGCA reserves the right to deny exhibit space for any display or sales items, which, in its opinion, are inconsistent with show rules and do not conform to the guidelines listed below.
- t) No black powder in any amount is allowed in the building.
- u) 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.
- v) Exhibitors agree to stay until closing each day of the show.

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. The VGCA reserves the right to refuse the display or sale of any items inconsistent with the VGCA show rules.
- 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, unless clearly represented as not original, are prohibited. Genuine firearms related or collectible militaria are allowed.
 - 10) Ku Klux Klan, racist, white supremacist or other hate group 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. (Flare guns and flare gun accessories are acceptable.)
- 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 show committee after review and examination of the documentation and materials. Approved proposals shall be signed and dated by the Show Committee Chairman and a copy given to the exhibitor.

5. TABLE RESERVATIONS AND RENTALS/SALES:

- a) Completed and signed VGCA applications for table reservations will be accepted as soon as show flyers/application are available for the next show. 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 current show.**
 - c) A new waiting list will be established for all applicants, and tables will 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 and paid in full 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 payment returned.
 - w) Reserved table space will be for the use of the applicant (person named on the table application) only and may not be given, rented or reassigned to others by the applicant without the knowledge of the Show Manager.
 - f) If assigned table space cannot be occupied by the applicant, co applicant, 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. above.
 - g) All table holders/exhibitors will sign the Table Holder Agreement at the time of table registration before they set up their table(s). Those who refuse may not be allowed into the show.
 - h) Tables not occupied by 10 a.m. Saturday will be forfeited and may be reassigned unless notification of late arrival is received in advance. Reassignments will 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.
- Table holders in good standing are 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 VGCA Gun Show Rules and Guidelines, they will

remain in good standing. The Show Committee, will 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 Gun Show Rules and Guidelines, and Show Manager or Safety Committee directives.
- 3) Failure to occupy tables on Sunday and continue display until show closing on Sunday.
- 4) Displaying or offering for sale prohibited items.

6. INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS

- a) Table holders/Exhibitors agree to indemnify, defend, protect and hold harmless the VGCA and its Officers and Directors, employees, volunteers and agents, from and against all claims, demands and liabilities for injuries to or death of persons, including exhibitor's employees or volunteers or injury to, or loss of property, arising directly and indirectly from exhibitor's activities, or their table space, or from the use of any portion of the venue, by or on behalf of the exhibitor, or any of their principals, constituents, suppliers, subcontractors, employees, partners, helpers, or volunteers. Exhibitors understand VGCA and show management accepts no responsibility or liability for any and all damages or injuries resulting from an exhibitors, exhibitor employees, volunteers or persons acting on behalf of the exhibitor for their actions or merchandise while at the show.
- b) Exhibitors agree to indemnify, defend, protect and hold harmless the VGCA and its Officers and Directors, employees, volunteers and agents, including attorney fees, that may arise as the result of any alleged, negligent conduct, nonfeasance, misfeasance, malfeasance, or failure to comply with this agreement by the exhibitor or any of the exhibitor's principals, constituents, suppliers, subcontractors, employees, partners, helpers, or volunteers, except to the extent any damages or claims arise as a result of gross negligence or willful misconduct of the VGCA.
- c) Any violation of the show rules and regulations may result in the termination of the exhibitor's privilege to exhibit. While exhibitor's sales/display materials are on the premises of the Exhibit Hall the exhibitor accepts all risk of any loss or accident and hereby releases and holds harmless the VGCA, its Officers & Directors, employees, volunteers and agents from all liability and responsibility for any and all losses, damages or claims arising from any loss or damage to, loss of value, or similar such claims resulting from the theft, misappropriation, damage or any other action.

7. RULES INTERPRETATION AND DECISIONS:

The Show Committee/Board of Directors are solely responsible for the interpretation and enforcement of the foregoing rules and guidelines at the gun show. Decisions of the Show Committee at the gun show are immediately binding and final. Any revision of these Gun Show Rules and Guidelines and/or Appendices must be approved by the Officers and Board of Directors of the VGCA.

8. RATIFICATION:

These Gun Show Rules and Guidelines were approved by the VGCA Board of Directors on July 26, 2018.

/S/

Signed: Bernie Breighner, President, VGCA

dated: July 27, 2018

Appendix A – VGCA Display Only Table Judging Criteria

Show Date: _____

Exhibitor Name: _____ Table # _____

Display Title/Theme: _____

1. Clear & simple title/theme is evident (10 pts) _____
 2. Displayed firearms & related items support title/theme (10 pts) _____
 3. Completeness of presentation: Full scope of subject represented (10 pts) .. _____
 4. All displayed items are adequately labeled & described (10 pts) _____
 5. Text & labeling are clear, concise & readable (10 pts) _____
 6. Historical importance / collector interest (10 pts) _____
 7. Significance adequately explained in display and/or in handouts (10 pts) .. _____
 8. Condition: Quality/originality of displayed items (10 pts) _____
 9. Rarity: Relative availability of displayed items (10 pts) _____
 10. General Appearance: Neatness, creativity in design, construction
workmanship & unobstructive security safeguards (10 pts) _____
- Total Points (100 maximum) _____

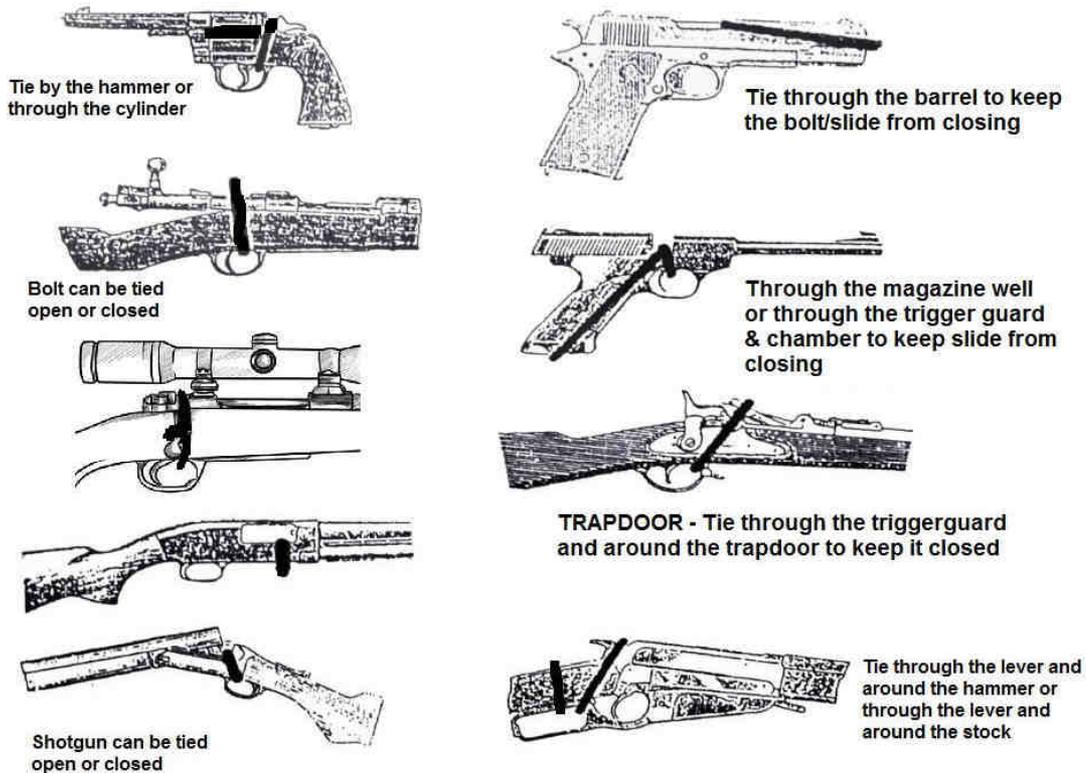
Comments (Optional): _____

Appendix B – Suggested Gun Tie Methods

There are numerous methods of tying a gun with a gun tie to render it inoperable. The drawings below illustrate just some methods suggested by the VGCA. For example, a bolt action rifle can be tied with the bolt either open or closed – as long as it cannot be manipulated. A revolver can be tied with the tie around the hammer so it cannot be moved, a tie in front of the hammer so it cannot drop, and/or with a tie through the cylinder so it cannot turn. A lever action rifle can have the plastic tie through the lever and around the stock so it cannot be manipulated to insert a round into the chamber.

ALL CARTRIDGE GUNS MUST BE TIED

ALL CLIPS AND MAGAZINES MUST BE REMOVED



Each and every cartridge firearm in your possession or in the possession of your guests must be checked, cleared and tied with the nylon ties which are provided at the exhibitor desk if needed.

Please do not open your tables for business until all cartridge guns are tied and all magazines are removed from them. We will not open the show until all cartridge guns are tied or made inaccessible to the public.

ALL CARTRIDGE GUNS MUST BE UNLOADED AND TIED TO RENDER THEM UN-FIREABLE OR THEY MUST BE MADE INACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC.