

BHSA BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Association is to promote and improve the areas' hunter show industry and provide a vehicle for members to participate in a year end award program. The business and objectives to be carried on and promoted are as follows:

- (1) Define the divisions for which awards will be given.
- (2) Accept member horse shows.
- (3) Accept exhibitor members.
- (4) Accrue points.
- (5) Produce a year end event.
- (6) Foster harmonious relations between shows and exhibitors.
- (7) Encourage consistency in unrecognized hunter competitions.
- (8) Provide educational events to its members covering show ring standards and etiquette, judging standards and rules, responsibilities of exhibitors and their agents, trainers, coaches including integrity, sportsmanship, and adherence to the rules through knowledge of them as well as conduct, importance of ethics and such other subjects as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Eligibility: Members shall be those persons admitted to membership in this Association. Membership in the BHSA is a privilege and is offered to those who pay their current dues, abide by the Bylaws and Rules of the BHSA and conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the best interest of the Association. The membership year will begin December 1st of the previous calendar year and ends November 30th of the current calendar year. In order to accrue points for BHSA awards an exhibitor, horse and owner/lessee must be registered and in good standing with the *Association*. "For voting purposes, a senior member must be a member in good standing as of September 1st of the current year preceding any membership meeting or election of officers and shall not be represented at any regular or special meeting of the Association by Attorney, Agent, or Proxy."

Membership classifications:

(1) Individual Membership:

Senior Membership: Those members who have reached their eighteenth birthday prior to December 1st of the previous year. Each senior member in good standing shall have the right to cast one vote at any meeting of members, except at the Annual Meeting, where in order to vote for the election of Directors, a senior member must have become a current member no later than September 1st of the current show year.

Junior Membership: Those members who have not reached their eighteenth birthday and do not qualify as senior members. Junior members shall not have the right to vote at any meeting of members, but may attend such meetings.

Farm/Stable Membership: Those farms/stables which join as a farm/stable in order to record horses/ponies which are shown under the farm/stable name. The owner, or its representative shall be accorded the rights of Senior individual membership for voting purposes without payment of additional dues, and said owner's name/representative must be listed on the membership application. The designated person can only be changed during any given year upon written application to the Board, and the affirmative vote of the Board accepting the change.

Show Membership:

- a. Show membership is a special category of membership indicating the show is a part of the BHSA competition calendar, and the organizing committee/management affirms its desire to conduct the show in accordance with the rules and regulations of the BHSA. No voting rights are accorded with this class of membership. The designated show manager must be an individual senior member of the BHSA, and as such will have full voting rights as defined in (1) above.
- b. Any show member may voluntarily resign from this Association at any time after sixty days written notice to the Secretary. Upon resignation, a show member will forfeit any dues which it may have paid. When by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors it is

determined that a horse show recognized by the Board has failed to observe its agreement to abide by the rules and regulations of this Association for holding and conducting horse shows, or has failed to hold its show at the date or dates assigned by this Association, the membership of the show member from such show shall be revoked, and any dues paid by such show member shall be forfeited.

Termination of Membership: No membership shall be transferable, and each membership shall terminate at any time upon the resignation of the member, or at any time by vote of the Directors at any regular or special meeting at which a quorum is present and for which notice was given as prescribed in these Bylaws upon receiving an affirmative vote at least equal to (a) two-thirds of the Directors present at such meeting and (b) one-half of all Directors.

Rights and Privileges: So long as a member remains in good standing he shall be entitled to and enjoy all the rights and privileges of membership.

ARTICLE III. MEETINGS

Annual Meeting: The annual meeting of the Association, for the purpose of electing the Board of Directors for the ensuing year, and for such other matters as may come before the meeting, shall be held in November of each year or at such other time, as designated by the Board of Directors. Notice shall be given to each member at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting. Annual meetings shall be general meetings. They are general meetings open to the transaction proper for consideration by members and with in the powers of the Association without special notice of such business except in cases in which special notice is required by statute of the Bylaws. Each senior member in good standing will have one vote.

Special Meetings: A special meeting of the members may be called by the President or a majority of the Board of Directors **upon ten (10) days notice.** Upon the request in writing to the President of 10% of the membership, it shall be the duty of the President to call forthwith a special meeting of the members; such a request shall state the purpose of the meeting and notice thereof shall be given as required for special meetings.

Quorum: Except as otherwise stated in these Bylaws, those senior members present for a regularly called general meeting, for which notice as required by these Bylaws shall have been given, shall constitute a quorum.

Voting: Each member, eighteen years of age or older, shall be entitled to one vote. If a quorum is present, an affirmative vote of a majority in voting power of the members represented at a meeting and entitled to a vote on a subject matter shall be the act of the members, unless the vote of a greater number is required by law, parliamentary procedure, or the Bylaws.

Procedures: The deliberations of the Association shall be governed by parliamentary usage as contained in "Roberts' Manual of Parliamentary Rules".

ARTICLE IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The business of this Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors of whom all shall be senior members of the Association in good standing. The Board shall be comprised of eleven elected Association members plus the past President. There should be a balanced composition of show owners, exhibitors, trainers, and parents.

Election and Term of Office: A Board of Directors shall be elected annually in the manner provided for in these Bylaws, and each Director elected for a two year term. The officers shall be elected for a one year term.

Meetings of the Board of Directors: There shall be at least five regular meetings each year of the Board of Directors. Members who wish to appear before the Board or bring matters before the Board must apply in writing to the President of the Association at least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled Board meeting. The Board shall reserve the right to closed discussions. Urgent matters needing immediate response may be addressed and voted on by way of fax, E-mail, conference calls or other ways of communicating that will facilitate full understanding of the matter at hand. All Directors must be contacted.

Regular Meetings: Regular meetings of the Board shall be held at such times and places as may be fixed from time to time by action of the Board of Directors. Unless required by resolution of the Board of Directors, notice of such meetings need not be given.

Special Meetings: A special meeting of the Board may be called by the President or any two Directors of the Board of Directors. Upon the request in writing to the President of 10% of the membership, it shall be the duty of the President to call forthwith a special meeting of the members; such a request shall state the purpose of the meeting and notice thereof shall be given as required for special meetings. **At least ten (10) days notice shall be given** and all directors must be notified.

Resignations: Any Director may resign at any time, orally or in writing, by notifying the Board of Directors, the President or the Secretary.

Vacancies: If the office of any Director becomes vacant the remaining Directors may elect a successor or successors by majority vote who shall hold office for the remaining term.

Quorum: At any meeting of the Board, a majority of its members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS

The officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer or a Secretary-Treasurer. The officers must come from the elected Board. The Board may choose to separate the secretary position into two officers, a Recording Secretary and a Corresponding Secretary and the Treasurer to be separated into a Treasurer and an Assistant Treasurer. These officers shall be elected by the Board of Directors following the annual meeting every year; and shall hold office until their successors have been duly elected and qualified. New officers shall begin their term December 1 of each year, except if the Treasurer is not re-elected the outgoing Treasurer will continue to serve until January 1st because the Tax year is the calendar year.

Additional Distribution of Duties: Any and all duties of the Secretary can be assigned to a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and/or a Point Keeper. Any and all duties of the Treasurer can be assigned to and Assistant Treasurer. The President may appoint additional assistants as needed.

Duties of the President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors, and, subject to approval, direction or authorization of the Board of Directors, shall have general charge and care of the business and property of the Association, and do and perform all acts which are incident to the office of President or authorized agent or required by law.

Duties of the Vice-President: The Vice-President shall be vested with all powers and perform all duties of the President in his/her absence and shall have other powers and shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

Duties of the Secretary: The Secretary of the Association and of the Board of Directors; shall give or cause to be given all required notices of meetings of the members of the Board of Directors, and shall keep accurate records of the business transacted at such meetings in a book or books to keep for that purpose; and shall keep records of members, horses, member shows, points and other records; and shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors or the President. The Secretary shall also keep the membership ledger containing names and addresses of the membership in alphabetical order.

Duties of the Treasurer: The treasurer shall keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Association and deposit all moneys and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the Association in such depositories as may be designated by the Board of Directors. He/she shall disburse the funds of the Association as may be ordered by the Board, taking proper vouchers for such disbursements, and shall render to the President and the Directors at the regular meetings of the Board, and whenever they may require it, an account of the transactions as the Treasurer, and of the financial condition of the Association. Accounts and records must be turned over to the Board of Directors for review and perform other duties as required by law.

ARTICLE VI. COMMITTEES

The President or the Board of Directors shall appoint such committees as may be deemed desirable and define their duties. Meetings of the committees may be called at any time by the President or

Chair of such committee. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees unless otherwise ordered. Unless otherwise provided it shall be the function of the committees to investigate and make recommendations. No committee can act on their own behalf without the consent and approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS

Elections of the Board of Directors will be held at the general membership meeting. They will take office upon election. Elected positions of this Association shall be the Board of Directors. There shall be eleven Directors plus the past President on the Board. Six Directors are to be elected to serve a two year term in even years at each annual meeting and five directors are to be elected to serve a two year term in odd years. Each member entitled to vote must cast their vote in person for each vacancy on the Board. The Nominating Committee shall publish a ballot listing the nominees for the election to the Board of Directors not less than 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee shall prepare and distribute ballots, and verify the results of said election. Nominations can also be made by voting members from the floor during the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII. DISCIPLINE

Individuals: The provisions of these Bylaws and of the rules shall apply at any BHSA member show or activity to the following persons: Owner, exhibitor, agent, trainer, coach, manager, rider, driver, show official, show employee, member of the family, or employee of any of the above, individual member of the BHSA, or any person who acts in violation of the rules of the Association or deemed prejudicial to its best interest. Any act at a BHSA member show or activity in violation of the rules of the Association by a member of the family of a person participating in the show or activity who is described in the previous sentence, may be deemed to have been committed by such person and subject him/her to penalties.

Violations: A violation is an act prejudicial to the best interest of the Association, including but not limited to the following:

- a. Violation of the rules of the Association.
- b. Penalization by another Horse Show Association, Humane Society, or Court of Law for violations.
- c. Failure of a show official to perform his duties at a show in accordance with the rules.
- d. Failure of an exhibitor or his/her representative to sign the entry blanks of a show in which he/she competes.
- e. Exhibiting any horse while in the care, custody, and training of a trainer suspended by the BHSA.
- f. Riding, exhibiting, coaching, or training for the benefit, credit, reputation, or satisfaction of a person suspended by the BHSA.
- g. Failure to settle indebtedness in a timely fashion.
- h. Acting or inciting or permitting any other to act in a manner contrary to the rules or By-laws of the BHSA, or in a manner deemed improper, unethical, dishonest, unsportsmanlike, intemperate or prejudicial to the best interests of the BHSA and its member shows.
- i. Any act committed or remark made in connection with a show considered offensive and/or made with the intent to influence or cast aspersions on the character or integrity of the show officials, approaching a judge before or after a decision without first obtaining permission, or public verbal abuse of competition officials.
- j. Physical assault upon a person.
- k. Cruelty to a horse/pony, including excessive use of a whip/crop, striking the horse/pony on the poll or forward of the poll, rapping the legs of a horse with the butt end of a crop or other implement, use of any of any substance to induce temporary heat (soring), manual poling, use of a wire or chain in conjunction with any schooling jump, use of electric devices in schooling or showing, any other inhumane treatment of a horse/pony anywhere on the ground by anyone, excessive use of spurs, especially if blood drawn.
- l. Failure to obey any penalty imposed by the BHSA.

Procedures for filing protests and charges and the handling of hearings are covered in the BHSA rules.

Penalties:

- (1) If found guilty by a disciplinary committee, the accused shall be subject to such penalty including fine, censure, termination or suspension of their membership for such a time as the Board of Directors deems appropriate or whatever other form enacted.
- (2) Member shows must honor all BHSA penalties.

ARTICLE IX. FISCAL

The moneys belonging to the Association shall be deposited in one or more financial institutions to be designated by the Board of Directors and shall be drawn out only on checks to be signed either by the President, Vice-President, or the Treasurer. The fiscal year of the Association shall be from December 1st of the previous calendar year through November 30th.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended by a vote of majority of the Board of Directors present at a special or regular meeting of the Board, or by a majority of Senior members present at any special or regular meeting of the members, provided at least 2 weeks' notice shall have been given of the proposed amendment(s) to be acted upon to the entire Membership in the notice calling the meeting. The date, time and location of that meeting will be posted on the BHSA website.

At any Board of Directors Meeting at which an amendment(s) is to be considered, members must be allowed to attend and express their opinions on the proposed amendment(s).