

BYLAWS
of
The QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION of NEBRASKA, Inc.

ARTICLE I
NAME

The name of the corporation shall be QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION of NEBRASKA

ARTICLE II
OBJECT

Section 1. Objectives.

- A. The corporation shall represent the American Quarter Horse in Nebraska emphasizing owners, breeders, horsemen and competitors.
- B. The standards of honesty, integrity, fair play and friendliness will guide the activities for Nebraska to be a leading state in the Quarter Horse Industry.
- C. In regard to policies and activities, all of the proceedings of the Quarter Horse Association of Nebraska shall be in harmony with the policies and activities of the American Quarter Horse Association, and, so far as may be applicable, shall govern all matters not covered by these Bylaws.

ARTICLE III
MEMBERS/FINANCE

Section 1. Membership/Dues.

- A. Membership shall be open to any reliable person, firm or corporation.
- B. Each membership in good standing, regardless of the number of names appearing in said membership, shall be entitled to one vote on any business coming before the Association for decision. Any new membership must have been paid thirty days before such meeting.
 1. Honorary Life Members shall have full voting privileges.
 2. Gratuitous membership shall have no vote.
 3. Annual Membership Dues shall be paid to the Treasurer with the amount of the dues to be determined by the Board of Directors annually.
 4. Recreational Riding Membership shall have no voting privileges or be eligible for year-end high point show awards.
- C. All members shall be subject to the rules of the Quarter Horse Association of Nebraska as well as the rules of the American Quarter Horse Association.
- D. All members shall be subject to being disciplined, suspended or expelled from the Association as provided in these Bylaws.
- E. All Officers and Directors shall be members of the Association.
- F. Non-payment of dues shall be cause for forfeiture of office or director status as provided in these Bylaws.

Section 2. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of shall be January 1 to December 31.

ARTICLE IV
OFFICERS

RESTRICTED

Section 1. Officers.

- A. The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.
- B. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person.

Section 2. Election.

- A. The Officers of the Association shall be elected by the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting.
- B. The Board of Directors shall have the power to establish and select other officers as may be necessary.
- C. No persons may be nominated or elected to the office of President or Vice President until they have served two years as an elected Director to the Board of Directors.
- D. A person may not serve more than four consecutive terms as President.

Section 3. Term.

- A. Officers shall be elected for a term of one year.
- B. All Officers shall assume their duties at the close of the Annual Meeting.

Section 4. Duties of Officers.**A. The President shall:**

- 1. Preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Membership.
- 2. Perform such other duties assigned by the Board of Directors.
- 3. Not vote on any matter brought before the Board for decision except:
 - a. For the election of Officers
 - b. To resolve a tie vote
 - c. To amend the Bylaws.
- 4. As the immediate Past President, serve as an ex-officio member of the Board during the term/terms of the sitting President.
 - a. The immediate Past President's presence will be as an Advisor only.
 - b. The Advisor may vote for Officers and National Directors.
 - c. The Advisor's presence will not count for a quorum.

B. The Vice President shall:

- 1. Preside over meetings in the absence of or at the request of the President.
- 2. May vote on any matter brought before the Board for decision.

C. The Secretary shall:

- 1. Ensure that the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee meetings and General Meetings are recorded accurately.
- 2. Ensure that the original copies of the various meeting minutes are filed appropriately in the Minute File.

D. The Treasurer shall:

- 1. Prepare and present financial reports at the Board of Directors meetings and Association annual meeting.
- 2. Be Chairman of the Budget Committee
- 3. Be a member of the Audit Committee

Section 5. Bond. The President and the Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as is fixed by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings.

- A. **Regular Meetings.** All meetings of the Board of Directors shall be called by the President or by a call signed by not less than five members of the Board of Directors.
1. The date, time, place and general agenda of the meeting shall be stated in the call.
 2. A copy of the call shall be e-mailed with appropriate notice of receipt or mailed to each Director at least ten days before the date of the meeting.
- B. **Annual Meeting.** The Board of Directors shall determine the date, time and place of the Annual Meeting.
1. Notice of the Annual Membership Meeting shall be given to each member not less than ten or more than fifty days before the date of the meeting.
 2. The printing of the notice in the **Nebraska Quarter Horse News** and the mailing of the notice to each member within the above time limits shall constitute sufficient notice.
- C. **Special Meetings.** A Special Meeting of the members of the Association may be called by the President or by not less than fifty percent of the Membership from each District.
1. Notice of a Special Meeting shall be mailed, or e-mailed with appropriate notice of receipt, to members not less than ten days prior to the meeting.
 2. A Special Meeting notice shall indicate the date, time, place and business of the call.
 3. Only the business indicated in the call shall be allowed.
- D. **Participation.** Board of Directors meeting participation will be permitted by conference call. Representation by proxy will not be permitted.

ARTICLE VI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Governance.

- A. The affairs of the Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors
1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, the Vice President and Directors from each of the six Districts.
 2. The members from each District who are present at the Annual Meeting shall elect the Directors from their District.
 - a. Each Director shall be elected for a term of two (2) years each, in alternate years.
 - b. The members voting shall be QHAN members in good standing. Any new QHAN members voting must be paid members at least thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting.
 - c. If a District does not have any member willing to serve as a District Director, the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may appoint a QHAN member in good standing to represent such District for a one-year term.
 3. The quorum of the Board of Directors shall be a majority of the total Board membership.
 4. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the act of a majority of the Directors present and voting in a meeting when a quorum is present shall be the act of the entire Board of Directors.

B. All Directors shall be domiciled in the state of Nebraska.

Section 2. Representation.

- A. The total number of Directors shall not exceed eighteen (18).
1. One Director each shall be elected from Districts 1 and 2, and two Directors each shall be elected from Districts 3-6.
 2. Any member nominated, but not elected, in their respective District shall be able to run for the At-Large District seats.
 3. Once District Board seats have been named, remaining nominees will be placed in a pool and voted on by the entire membership in attendance, provided they hold a current membership.
 4. At-Large District seats will be created by reducing existing District seats.
 5. Board of Directors seats will be aligned as follows:
 - District 1-One Elected
 - District 2-One Elected
 - District 3-Two Elected
 - District 4-Two Elected
 - District 5-Two Elected
 - District 6-Two Elected
 - At Large-Eight Selected
- B. The Districts shall consist of the following counties:
1. **District 1.** Sioux, Dawes, Scottsbluff, Banner, Kimball, Box Butte, Morrill, Cheyenne, Sheridan, Garden and Deuel.
 2. **District 2.** Cherry, Grant, Arthur, Keith, Perkins, Chase, Dundy, Hooker, McPherson, Thomas, Logan, Hayes, Lincoln, Hitchcock, Frontier and Red Willow.
 3. **District 3.** Keya Paha, Brown, Rock, Blaine, Loup, Custer, Dawson, Gosper, Furnas, Boyd, Holt, Garfield, Wheeler, Valley, Greeley, Sherman, Howard, Buffalo, Hall, Phelps, Kearney, Adams, Harlan, Franklin and Webster.
 4. **District 4.** Knox, Cedar, Arapaho, Pierce, Wayne, Madison, Stanton, Boone, Platte, Colfax, Nance, Merrick, Polk, Butler, Hamilton, York, Seward, Clay, Fillmore, Saline, Nuckolls, Thayer and Jefferson.
 5. **District 5.** Dixon, Dakota, Thurston, Cuming, Burt, Dodge, Washington and Douglas.
 6. **District 6.** Saunders, Sarpy, Cass, Otoe, Lancaster, Gage, Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee, and Richardson.
- C. Upon the election of the President, a vacancy shall be declared for a District Director in the District from which the President was elected as a Director. The membership of such District shall be immediately notified at the Annual Meeting.
1. The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall attempt to appoint a member from the same District to fill the vacancy. If the vacated District does not have any member willing to serve as District Director, the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may appoint a QHAN member in good standing to represent such District for a one-year term.
- D. The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a member from the same District to fill the unexpired term of any Director.

- E. The Board of Directors shall elect an officer to fill the unexpired term of any officer removed from office under the provisions of Article VII, Section 2.E.6.

Section 3. AQHA Representation.

- A. Directors from the State of Nebraska to the American Quarter Horse Association shall be recommended to the American Quarter Horse Association annually by the QHAN Board of Directors.

Section 4. Report of the National Director.

- A. Following the Annual Meeting of the American Quarter Horse Association, each Nebraska National Director shall present to the QHAN Board, written and/or oral summaries of the activities of the committee(s) on which the Director serves and any other pertinent AQHA business and/or actions taken.
1. AQHA Directors representing Nebraska must be current members in good standing of QHAN.
 2. These AQHA Directors shall be invited to all meetings of the QHAN Board.
 3. The AQHA Directors, unless a QHAN Director, should act only in an advisory capacity.
 4. The AQHA Directors shall be entitled to vote only on present and future AQHA Directors.

Section 5. Amateur and Youth.

- A. The Presidents of the Amateur and Youth groups as well as the Chairman of the Youth Committee will be ex-officio members, without vote, of the QHAN Board of Directors.
1. Their presence will not be counted for a quorum.
 2. They will be present as advisors only.

**ARTICLE VII
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Section 1 Election.

- A. At the Annual Meeting the President shall appoint an Executive Committee for the current year.
1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers of the Association, the Immediate Past President and two members of the Board of Directors.
 2. The Executive Committee shall perform such duties as are assigned to it by the Board of Directors and these Bylaws.

Section 2 Discipline.

- A. The Executive Committee may discipline, suspend or expel any person from membership whenever it shall have been established by satisfactory evidence that a member has:
1. Failed to pay when due any obligation owed this Association or for giving a worthless check for entry fees, stall fees, office charges, stock charges or any other fees or charges connected with any approved quarter horse show, event or competition.
 2. Knowing and willfully misrepresented in any essential detail an animal sold at either public or private sale or entered in any approved quarter horse show, event or competition.
 3. Been disciplined, suspended or expelled from membership by the American Quarter Horse Association.

4. Knowingly and willfully violated any rule or bylaw of this association or any rule or regulation of the American Quarter Horse Association.
- B. Executive Committee meeting participation will be permitted by conference call except for disciplinary hearings.
 - C. Charges against any member shall be in writing, signed by the complaining party in the presence of a Notary Public, or two witnesses under signature, and delivered to the President either in person or by mail.
 - D. The President shall bring such charges to the attention of the Executive Committee without undue delay.
 - E. Whenever a charge has been made against any member for having violated any of the rules indicated in these Bylaws, the Executive Committee shall notify the member in writing of the charges and fix a date, time and place for a hearing before the Executive Committee.
 1. The accused shall be given not less than fifteen days' notice of the hearing computed from the date of the mailing.
 2. The mailing of the notice with sufficient postage, addressed to the member at his last address as shown on the records of this Association, shall be sufficient service of notice.
 3. At the hearing the accused shall be entitled to see and hear all evidence against him.
 4. The accused shall be entitled to be heard and to produce evidence in his behalf.
 5. The Executive Committee shall have the power to reinstate any member who has been expelled.
 6. The Executive Committee shall have the power to remove from office any QHAN Director or Officer of this Association who shall:
 - a. Fail to pay his annual dues.
 - b. Request to be relieved from office.
 - c. Moves his permanent residence from Nebraska.
 - d. Is unable or fails to serve.
 - e. Fails to attend two consecutive called meetings of the Board of Directors without just cause.

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

Section 1. Committees.

- A. Following the Annual Meeting, the President may appoint members to serve on the following committees which shall recommend policy, procedures and functions to the Board of Directors.
 1. Show and Contest Committee
 2. Youth Committee
 3. Membership Services Committee
 4. Bylaws Committee
 5. Breeders Futurity Committee
 6. Finance Committee
 7. Silver Classic Committee
 8. Amateur Committee
 9. Racing Committee

- 10. Recreational Trail Committee
- 11. Social Media
- 12. Hall of Fame

- B. The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall have the authority to remove any member from any committee.
- C. The President may create and appoint members to other committees as he deems necessary for the best interest of the Association.
- D. No committee or its members shall have the authority to financially obligate the Association without the prior approval of the President and subsequent ratification of the Board of Directors.
- E. Committees shall meet regularly enough to function.
- F. The Committees shall provide annual reports to the Board of Directors and Executive Committee and to the General Membership.
- G. All committees shall operate at the discretion of the Association and its Board of Directors.
- H. No other social media outlets, other than those authorized by the Association and its Board of Directors, shall function as an authority for the Association, the Board of Directors, Association shows and events, and any additional Association business.

ARTICLE IX PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws, **Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised**, current edition, shall govern the proceedings of all meetings.

ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors provided that the Directors have been notified in writing of the proposed changes at least two (2) weeks prior to the Board Meeting. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at which a quorum is present.

Revised: 2012
Amended: 2019