

+NEW JERSEY QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION BY LAWS

Revised December 2000

ARTICLE I NAME, OBJECT AND LOCATION

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the New Jersey Quarter Horse Association, Inc. Its object shall be to educate, promote in all ways the interest of the New Jersey Quarter Horse owners, to promote, protect and maintain the integrity of the American Quarter horse breed, to increase the number of New Jersey breeders and owners of Quarter Horses registered by the American Quarter Horse Association and to advance New Jersey to a position of a leading Quarter Horse state. All the proceedings of this Association shall be in harmony with the policies and activities of the American Quarter Horse Association.

Section 2. The place of business of the New Jersey Quarter Horse Association shall be the office of the current Secretary where copies of the Secretary and Treasurers records, as well as copies of all pertinent organizations data from previous years shall be kept.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP, APPLICATION AND DUES

Section 1. Membership shall be of two (2) categories: Annual and Lifetime Members.

Section 2. Membership shall be open to any person, a resident of any state, interested in promoting Quarter Horses registered by the AQHA. Any person having joined this Association shall thereby become subject to the rules and bylaw then in force or later adopted by the Association, and shall be subject to expulsion from the organization by these bylaws.

Section 3. Yearly membership may be obtained for Senior members (over 18 years of age) at \$25.00 per year. A person shall have but one vote. Life membership shall be \$250.00 and no additional dues shall be assessed. Dues, ELIGIBILITY and application for the New Jersey Quarter Horse Youth Association shall be governed by the Constitution and Bylaw of the New Jersey Quarter Horse Youth Association.

Section 4. Membership shall commence as of January 1st (for applications received on or before January 1st) and be effective through December 31st. After January 1st, membership will commence as of the date postmarked on the envelope. Memberships received after September 30th shall be considered the next year's membership.

Section 5. Life membership shall be open to any applicant meeting the requirements in Section 2.

Section 6. A member can be reprimanded, suspended or expelled by the Board of Directors for:

a) unsportsmanlike conduct or action detrimental to the Association: **b)** knowingly and willfully misrepresenting in any essential detail an animal sold either at public or private sale or shown at any show: **c)** knowingly and willfully violating the rules and regulations of the NEW JERSEY QUARTER HORSE Association or the American Quarter Horse Association.

Section 7. When any person, farm, family, partnership or Corporation as members of this Association shall be accused of any acts or practices constituting grounds for expulsion from the Association, THEY ARE entitled to a full, fair, and impartial public hearing before the OFFICERS AND THE Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall cause written notice to be served upon such accused member ten (10) days prior to the proposed hearing stating the person, farm, family, partnership or Corporation accusing the member(s) and the charges and specifications against the accused, and the time and place of the hearing. The Board of Directors shall require the accuser to post a fee of \$50.00 with the Treasurer not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of THE hearing. The Board of Directors at the time and place of the hearing shall require the accuser to offer evidence in support of the charges and specifications and give full opportunity to the accused to refute such evidence. Default by either the accused or accusers shall result in the Board of Directors taking proper action. Upon being adjudged guilty of the practice as charged and worthy of expulsion by affirmative vote of a majority of the Directors present, he/SHE shall be forthwith expelled. A copy of the findings shall be mailed to the accused and the American Quarter Horse Association within five (5) days thereafter.

Section 8. Any member expelled by the AQHA is automatically expelled from this Association and shall forfeit all rights to any property of the Association.

Section 9. Any expelled member may be reinstated upon receiving the majority approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 10. Any resigning or expelled member forfeits all rights to any property of the Association.

Section 11. Any member who fails to make good any indebtedness written to NJQHA shall have all membership privileges suspended from the date the check was submitted as payment to NJQHA. All members included under that membership shall remain suspended until such payment is made good and is cleared by the current treasurer of NJQHA. This shall include all members (youth and adult) whose bills are paid by another party, as well as those who pay their own bills.

ARTICLE III GOVERNMENT

Section 1. The general management of the affairs of the Association shall be vested in the Board of Directors, which shall be composed of the officers and directors. The number necessary to constitute a quorum at meetings of the Board of Directors shall be 1/3 or more of the duly elected officers and directors, and a simple majority of this quorum shall be governing.

Section 2. The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice-President, a Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 3. a) There shall not be less than seven (7) nor more than ten (10) directors. b) The absence from **THREE (3)** successive Directors Meetings shall be cause for automatic removal from the Board. c) Every Director must serve actively on a Committee, to not serve shall be cause for removal from the Board.

Section 4. The President shall be an ex-officio member, of all committees, and shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.

Section 5. Compensation: Officers and Members of the Board shall not receive any salary for their services.

ARTICLE IV ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Only members in good standing having a minimum of two (2) consecutive year's tenure in the Association prior to nomination and resident of New Jersey shall be eligible for election to office or board member. A member in good standing, only for purposes of nomination and election to office shall be construed to mean that dues must be paid before March 31st of each year and that said member has not been suspended or disciplined during the past two years immediately preceding the election.

Section 2. Candidates for election to office for the succeeding year or years shall be selected by the Nominations and Credentials Committee and names presented at the November nominating meeting. To be eligible for the office of president, said person must have previously served for one (1) full term as an officer or elected director.

Section 3. Before an individual is eligible to be nominated for office from the floor of the November nomination meeting, his or her name and membership credentials shall first be presented to the Nomination and Credentials Committee, appointed by the President, ten (10) days prior to the nomination meeting. At the November nomination meeting the Chairman will present the Committee's slate of nominations for officers and directors and thereafter nominations from the floor will be received by the president upon verification from the chairman that the individual being nominated from the floor has been previously presented to the Nomination and Credentials Committee for consideration.

Section 4. The officers and directors of the Association shall be elected by ballot which have been numbered and carry the association seal mailed to the Association or presented at the December meeting. One official ballot shall be supplied to each member eligible to vote. Each ballot will be numbered to the number of eligible voters. The candidates receiving the majority of votes cast shall be elected to the office for which he/she was nominated. One official ballot shall be supplied to each member eligible to vote. Farm, family, partnership, or Corporation memberships shall have but one (1) vote. In the event the slate of nominations for officers and directors selected by the Nominations and Credentials Committee is unopposed, ballots shall not be supplied to each member eligible to vote but rather the Secretary shall, at the November nominating meeting, case one vote for the slate of unopposed nominees and that vote shall represent all eligible member votes.

Section 5. Two Inspectors of Election shall be appointed by the President at the Election meeting.

Section 6. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall hold office for a **TWO** year term or until their successors are elected. An officer may succeed herself / himself.

Section 7. Any member may withdraw from the Association by presenting to the Secretary a written statement of resignation.

Section 8. If a vacancy occurs among the officers or directors, such vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by appointment of a member selected by the remaining officers and directors provided the member qualifies under Section 1. of this Article.

Section 9. Directors shall be elected each year for a two (2) year term except in the case where a Director is replaced pursuant to resignation, when the term shall be the unexpired term of such Director. Each retiring President shall automatically serve a lifetime term as Director at Large with a vote provided that said Past-President attends at least **FOUR (4)** Directors meeting per twelve (12) month period.

Section 10. The Nominating and Credential Committee may recommend each year individuals as Honorary Directors-at-Large. The nominees are to be individuals who have made exceptional and outstanding contributions to the Association. Nominees must be approved for appointment by a majority vote of a quorum of the officers and board of directors and will have the same privileges and rights as all other Directors-at-Large.

ARTICLE V DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and Board of Directors and shall appoint such committees as he/she or the Board of Directors shall consider expedient or necessary.

Section 2. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform his/her duties, and in the absence of both President and Vice-President, the Secretary or Treasurer shall preside and assume the duties of the President.

Section 3. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Association, the Board of Directors meetings, and shall, if requested, read such minutes at the close of each meeting for approval, and shall mail out all notices of meetings of the Board of Directors and perform such duties as may be required of him/her by the bylaw, the President, or the Board of Directors. All approved minutes and treasurer's reports are to be published in the forthcoming Association's newsletter. A year end fiscal treasurer report is to be published by May 1.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall have charge of all receipts and monies of the Association, deposit the same in the name of the Association, and shall disburse said funds as ordered or authorized by the Board of Directors. He/she shall keep regular accounts of the receipts and disbursements, submit said record when requested, and give as itemized statement of the same at regular meetings of the Association. He/she shall sign checks and withdrawal slips on behalf of the Association upon any and all of its bank accounts and the same shall be honored on his/her signature alone or that of the President. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer at the beginning of each fiscal year to submit to the President and Board of Directors a proposed budget for the coming year. The fiscal year shall coincide with the membership year, January 1st to December 31st. It will also be the duty of the Treasurer to insure that all appropriate tax fillings are completed and submitted when due.

Section 5. All Officers and directors shall be required to attend all meetings of the association and the board of directors. Absence from **THREE (3)** consecutive meetings shall be cause for automatic removal from office.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENTS

Section 1. Nomination and Credentials Committee: The President shall appoint a Nomination and Credentials Committee whose duty it shall be to nominate candidates for Officers and Directors to be elected at the December Meeting, as well as to review the membership credentials of members who wish to be nominated from the floor at the November meeting. Names and phone numbers of the nomination committee shall be listed in one issue of the newsletter prior to the November nominating meeting. Appropriate positions available for election will be listed.

Section 2. Membership Committee: It shall be the duty of the Membership Committee to supply each member in good standing of the NJQHA a copy of the current bylaw of the Association, the rules pertaining to the NJ Bred Awards and rules governing Association Futurities along with the current year's membership card.

Section 3. Other Committees: The President may at any time appoint other committees on any subject. Committees so appointed shall serve from the time of appointment until the specific assignment is completed unless sooner relieved by the President or until the succeeding President takes office, whichever is sooner.

Section 4. Affiliations: New Jersey Quarter Horse Association will recognize the affiliation of the New Jersey Quarter Horse Youth Association provided that they shall operate within the scope of the bylaw, rules and regulations of the New Jersey Quarter Horse Association, their activities will be in harmony with the ideals of the New Jersey Quarter Horse Association, the President shall appoint a Youth Activity Committee and a Youth Activity Advisor with the advise and consent of said Committee and the Board of Directors. Each year at the re-organizational meeting (January) and voted on by the board of directors said youth advisor shall serve on the board with a vote and adhere to Article V. Section 5.

Section 5. All by law changes to the New Jersey Quarter Horse Youth Association are to be presented to the New Jersey Quarter Horse Association Board of Directors for review before being voted on by the youth association.

Section 6. The Editor of the NJQHA Newsletter shall be appointed each year at the re-organizational meeting (January) and voted on by the Board of Directors. Said Editor shall serve on the Board with a vote.

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

Section 1. Nomination Meeting: There shall be an annual meeting of the Association in November for nomination of Officers and Directors at which the Nomination and Credentials Committee will bring forth their slate of officers and Directors, after which nominations may be accepted from the floor. Refer to Article IV Section 3 reference candidates nominated from the floor.

Section 2. Election Meeting: There shall be an annual meeting in December for election of Officers and Directors, for receiving the report of the Treasurer, and the transaction of other business. If the President refuses or neglects to call this meeting it may be called by any four (4) members of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Special Meetings: Special meetings of the Association may be called at any time and place by the President or any four (4) members of the Board of Directors and Officers provided all officers and directors are properly notified within five (5) days for a directors meeting or ten (10) days for a general membership meeting,

Section 4. Notice of Meetings: Notices of all meetings shall be included in the official NJQHA Newsletter. Such notices shall set forth the place, date and time of the meeting.

Section 5. Quorum: A quorum for meetings of the Association shall consist of the members present at such meetings, and business may be transacted by a majority of said quorum.

Section 6. Order of Business: The order of business shall be as follows at all meetings of the Association and at meetings of the Board of Directors: **a)** Reading of the Minutes **b)** Treasurer's Report **c)** Reports of Officers **d)** Reports of Committees **e)** Unfinished Business **f)** New Business

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These bylaw may be amended at a regular or special meeting of the Association by a majority of votes case by the members in good standing at the time the vote was taken provided notice of the purpose of the proposed amendments has been stated at the call for the meeting.

Section 2. The Board of Directors may recommend amendment of the bylaw at any time, but such recommendations, to be valid, must be set forth in a call of the special or regular meeting as above provided.

ARTICLE IX NOT FOR PROFIT

Section 1. The Association shall be operated at all times on a not for profit basis for the mutual benefit of its members.

ARTICLE X DISSOLUTION

Section 1. In the event of dissolution, the Board, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the Association, shall dispose of all assets of the Association exclusively for the purposes of the Association in such manner or to such organizations organized and operated exclusively for educational or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Any assets not so disposed or shall be disposed of by the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, of the county in which the principal office of the association is then located, exclusively for such purposes to such organization or organizations as said court shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for educational or scientific purposes.

ARTICLE XILIBILITY

Section 1. New Jersey Quarter Horse Association being a Not for Profit organization and its Officers and Directors shall not be held responsible for loss due to accident, theft, or otherwise sustained be any member, visitor, or guest.

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