

**MISSOURI AMATEUR QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION  
BY-LAWS**

Mission Statement:

- To improve and promote the American Quarter Horse breed.
- To develop opportunities for members which enhance and encourage American Quarter Horse ownership and participation in Missouri Amateur activities.
- To encourage high moral characters, sportsmanship, and motivation among all its members.
- To generate growth of MAQHA membership via the promotion and advertising of the American Quarter Horse and AQHA Amateur programs.
- To acquaint Missouri Amateur members with the parent organization, MQHA, its structures and functions.

**ARTICLE I - Name and Purpose**

Section 1 - Name: The name of the Association shall be The Missouri Amateur Quarter Horse Association (hereinafter the "Association").

Section 2 - Purpose: The intent and purpose of the Association shall be to promote the active interest of the Quarter Horse in Missouri by shows, races, or other means and as advertising the State of Missouri as a Quarter Horse Breeding Center.

**ARTICLE II - Relationship To Parent Organization**

All of the activities and participation of the Association shall be in direct harmony and in accordance with the policies, rules and regulations of the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) and The Missouri Quarter Horse Association (MQHA).

**ARTICLE III - Membership**

Section 1 - Eligibility: Membership in the Association shall be open to any responsible person within or without the State of Missouri holding a current AQHA Amateur card, a current MQHA membership, and in good standings with both AQHA and MQHA. Memberships shall consist of individual memberships and shall conform to and be consistent with the rules and regulations of the AQHA as contained in the AQHA Handbook.

Section 2 - Dues and Voting: The Board of Directors of the Association shall fix the annual dues of the Association from time to time.

Voting in the Association shall be as follows: (a) person holding a current membership shall be entitled to one vote.

Section 3 - Non-Payment: Non-payment of dues shall automatically forfeit membership and all privileges attached and belonging hereto. When they are paid up in full, and there are no objections, member may be reinstated.

Section 4 - Subject to Rules: Any member of the Association becomes subject to rules, regulations and by-laws of the Association current or hereinafter adopted, and shall be subject to expulsion and/or penalties from this organization as provided and stipulated in these by-laws.

Section 5 - Causes for Expulsion: The following shall be cause for expulsion, or penalties, of any individual membership:

(a) To knowingly and willfully misrepresent in any entity an animal sold at either public or private treaty or exhibited in any State or AQHA approved show or race.

(b) To knowingly and willfully sell a barren or non-breeding animal without making statement prior to sale.

(c) Any member expelled by AQHA is automatically expelled by the Association.

(d) To knowingly and willfully violate any AQHA rule or law.

Section 6 - Public Hearing: Any person holding membership in the Association having cause to be accused of any of the above mentioned incidents, acts, or any other acts or practices deemed to be causes for expulsion from the Association shall be entitled to a full, fair and impartial public hearing before the Board of Directors of the Association.

Section 7 - Procedure: All charges shall be submitted in writing, signed by the accuser, to the Board of Directors who shall review said charges within ten (10) days. After said review, if the Board of Directors finds a full hearing is justified, a copy of said charges will be forwarded to the individual charged

within one (1) week of said meeting. A hearing shall then be held within thirty (30) days after the individual charges have been made, where his/her accusers shall confront him or he is permitted to examine any or all evidence offered in support of the charge against him, and thereby be given full opportunity to refute such evidence.

Section 8 - Expulsion: Upon being found guilty from evidence as charged and worthy of expulsion, he/she shall immediately be expelled and, in course, public notice of such expulsion is given in such a manner as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.

Section 9 - Reinstatement: Any expelled member may be reinstated with the approval of the Board of Directors.

#### **ARTICLE IV - Directors**

Section 1 - Members: The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, and six (6) directors from a particular district. If no one stands for election from a particular district, the President may submit a recommendation to the Board of Directors for approval from the district with a vacancy or an at large director from the state.

Section 2 - Honorary Directors: All past Presidents of the Association are honorary directors and will have a vote at Directors meetings as long as they are active in the Association and will be duly notified of all Board of Directors meetings.

Section 3 - At-Large: An at large director may be approved by the Board of Directors upon recommendation by the President to fill any vacancy in a district, and shall hold office for a term of one (1) year.

Section 4 - Method of Selection of District Directors: For the purpose of electing Directors, the State shall be divided into six (6) districts; each director shall hold office for a term of one (1) year, with six (6) members being elected each year.

(a) District 1 (Northwest) bounded on west and north by the state border, on the east by State Route No. 5, and on the south by US Route No. 40 (I-70).

(b) District 2 (Northeast) bounded on north and east by the State border, and on the south by US Route No. 40 (I-70), I-70 to Wentzville, then US Route 40 to State line, and on the west by State Hwy. No. 5.

(c) District 3 (West Central) bounded on the north by US No. 40 (I-70), and on the east by State Route No. 5, on the south by Route No. 32 and No. 54, with Lebanon as a hub, thence west to State line, the west border being the State border.

(d) District 4 (East Central) bounded on the west by State Route No. 5, on the north by US Route No. 32, from Lebanon to Salem, and Route No. 72 east to Cape Girardeau.

(e) District 5 (Southwest) bounded on south and west by State border, on north by line following US Route 54 to State Route No. 32 to Lebanon, on the east by State Route No. 5.

(f) District 6 (Southeast) bounded on north by line from Lebanon to Cape Girardeau along State Route No. 32 and No. 72, on the east and south by State borders, and on the west by Route No. 5.

Section 5 - Missed Meetings: If a Director misses two (2) meetings in succession without a legitimate reason he will be dropped as a Director at the end of the year and will be replaced at the annual meeting. Reason for absence from a scheduled meeting must be given to the President or Secretary prior to the meeting date.

Section 6 - Automatic Termination: Non-payment of dues of any officer or Director within thirty (30) days at the start of the current fiscal year will automatically terminate his/her term of office and a replacement will be appointed by the Board of Directors.

Section 7 - Meeting Notices: Meeting notices of the Board of Directors meetings shall be made by regular mail.

Section 8 - Meetings: There shall be at least four meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The President shall designate the meeting dates. The last meeting shall be preceding the annual meeting of the membership. Notice of meetings shall be mailed at least one (1) week prior to the meeting. The President or any four (4) members of the Board of Directors may call special meetings of the Board of Directors, at any time or place, with one (1) week notice.

Section 9 - Quorum: Quorum at any Board of Directors meeting shall be a majority of the Directors present after notice. A majority of such quorum shall decide any question that comes before the meeting.

Section 10 - Adjournments: All Board of Directors meetings may be adjourned from day to day, or from time to time, until a quorum appears. The order of business, however, must be the same as for a membership meeting.

Section 11 - Succession: All directors shall hold office until their successors are duly elected or qualified. Any director may succeed himself/herself if duly elected.

Section 12 - Missouri Resident: Any member of the Board of Directors must be a resident of Missouri.

Section 13 - Approval of Expenditure: Any expenditure not provided for in the budget must be approved by the Board of Directors or the Majority of the members present at any duly called membership meeting.

#### **ARTICLE V - Officers**

Section 1 - Association Officers: The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Any officer must be a resident of Missouri.

Section 2 - The President, Vice-President, and Treasurer shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting. The President shall have the right to appoint the Secretary with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 3 - Executive Committee: The President may appoint three (3) Directors to the Executive Committee, which he/she may consult, when needed, to carry out the business of the Association. Also, the President, in addition to the three (3) Directors described herein may appoint up to four (4) Past Presidents of the Missouri Amateur Quarter Horse Association to the Executive Committee. The Vice-President shall be Chairperson of said committee and in no event shall the Executive Committee consist of less than five (5) members.

Section 4 - Vacancy: Should a vacancy in any office occur, the Executive Committee shall recommend a replacement to be voted on by the Board of Directors at a subsequent meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 5 - Duties of Officers: The President shall preside over all regular and special meetings, and perform such other duties as usually attached to the office. He/she shall conduct all meetings according to parliamentary procedures. The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President when the President is absent from any meeting. The Secretary shall be responsible for implementing all Association activities, subject to the authority of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall perform the usual devolving upon such officer, subject to the authority of the Board of Directors, and shall be bonded at the expense of the Association with a certified annual audit.

#### **ARTICLE VI - Annual Meetings**

Section 1 - Meeting Called: The annual meeting of the Association for the election of officers and transaction of other business which shall come before it, shall be called by the President and in case of his/her refusal to call the same, by any four (4) members of the Board of Directors.

Section 2 - Notice: At least fourteen (14) day's notice of this meeting shall be given each member in good standing, or a notice sent by ordinary mail to his last known post office address.

Section 3 - Eligibility to Vote: Members eligible to vote at the annual meeting must be members in good standing by November 1.

Section 4 - Order of Business: The order of business at any meeting, either annual or called, must be: (a) calling of roll, (b) proof of due notice, (c) reading and disposal of the minutes, (d) financial report, (e) reports of officers and committee chairperson, (f) unfinished business, (g) new business, (h) election of officers, if any, and (i) adjournment.

#### **ARTICLE VII - Committees**

Section 1 - President Appoints: The President shall appoint such committees as deemed necessary by the President and/or Board of Directors.

Section 2 - Finance Committee: The President shall also appoint a finance committee from the Board of Directors and chaired by the Treasurer. The committee, upon appointment, shall submit a tentative budget to the Board of Directors.

Section 3 - Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of each committee to fully augment all functions of that respective committee.

Section 4 - Board: At least one member of the Board of Directors shall be an active participant of such committee and serve as liaison with the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE VIII - Miscellaneous**

Section 1 - Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of the Association shall be January 1 to December 31 with a general annual meeting following within sixty (60) days determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2 - Show Season: The show season (for MQHA points) extends from January 1 to December 31 inclusive.

**ARTICLE IX – Amendments to By-Laws**

By-laws of the Association may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Association by Majority vote of said Directors, providing a quorum of said Board is present. Standing rules of the Association may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors, providing a quorum of said Board is present.