

NEBRASKA HORSE CLUBS ASSOCIATION

BYLAWS

STATED
November 20, 2010

The following document constitutes the Bylaws, with Amendments thereto, of the Nebraska Horse Clubs Association

ARTICLE 1 – NAME

1. The name of the organization shall be **THE NEBRASKA HORSE CLUBS ASSOCIATION**., Hereafter referred to as the NHCA. The address of the NHCA shall be that of its secretary.

2. Location: The Nebraska Horse Clubs Association boundaries are concurrent with the boundaries of the State of Nebraska.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

1. The Nebraska Horse Clubs Association offers horse show opportunities for families, friends and fun. It provides numerous shows from May until August with Year End Awards at an affordable rate.

2. To sponsor exhibitions, competitions, and other related activities concerning the Nebraska Horse Clubs Association.

3. To sponsor recreational activities for the members of this organization and their invitees including the dispensing of food and refreshments.

4. To sponsor, and promote lotteries as is permitted under the Statutes of the State of Nebraska.

5. To sponsor, promote, publicize, and conduct sales of livestock, service fee and other related sales.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

1. Any person that is interested in the Nebraska Horse Clubs Association may become a member of the NHCA by paying the current year's dues.

2. Nebraska Horse Clubs Association Membership. There shall be one (1) class of membership to the Nebraska Horse Clubs Association. Family (includes parent(s) and household members); or Individual. Dues to the Association after May 15: Family & Individual Memberships go up \$5.00 each. Membership shall have one vote per membership, have the right to hold office or be a board member in the NHCA if over the age of 19 years as of January 1 of the current year. Points will only be counted from the date dues were paid.

3. When members pay their annual dues, a current family roster must be included. This roster must be received by the NHCA Secretary before members may earn points. If families get new members anytime during the summer, their names must be sent to the NHCA Secretary before they can start earning points.

4. The NHCA Board of Directors shall advise on the amount of the annual dues and must be voted on by the General Membership at the Fall General Membership Meeting.

5. The NHCA membership year is January 1st through December 31st. Current membership must be held to participate in Club affairs (e.g.: to hold office, voting privileges, earn Club Points.)

6. Any member(s) may be dropped from the membership for conduct and actions detrimental to the interests of the NHCA upon recommendation of the Board of Directors of the NHCA, after due investigation by and hearing before the Board of Directors of the NHCA. Lesser reprimands are to be handled at the discretion of the Board.

7. Membership is non-transferable.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

1. The officers of the NHCA shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The NHCA may have other appointive offices as determined by the Board of Directors.

2. All officers shall be elected at the Annual meeting by a majority of the voting members present.

3. All officers shall serve for a term of two years and shall be eligible to succeed themselves.

4. All officers must have been a member in good standing of the NHCA and must reside within the State of Nebraska.

ARTICLE V – DUTIES OF OFFICES

1. The President shall preside at all regular meetings of the NHCA. The President may call a special meeting of the NHCA.

2. The Secretary shall give notice and keep the minutes of all meetings of the NHCA and be responsible for maintaining the records of the NHCA. The Secretary shall keep a current record of membership.

3. The Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, or upon his/her request, perform all the duties of the President. In the event of death or resignation of the President, the Vice President shall succeed the President.

4. The Treasurer shall be financial officer of the NHCA, and shall collect monies due the NHCA, keep full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements, deposit all monies and other valuables in depositories designated by the Board of Directors, and pay all bills of the NHCA. The Treasurer shall report to the Board of Directors, when so requested, the financial status of the NHCA; and shall make an annual report to the NHCA of its financial condition. The payment of bills shall be upon vote of the Board of Directors with the exception of the regular operating expenses and approved NHCA activities, which may be paid at the discretion of the Treasurer.

5. The position of the Treasurer and President shall be bonded and the cost of the bond paid by NHCA.

6. The fiscal year shall be from January 1st through December 31st.

ARTICLE VI – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the four (4) elected officers of the NHCA and Board Members who are volunteers and need not be elected.
2. Officers shall be elected for a term of two (2) years. Board members are on a volunteer basis year to year.
3. The President until the next General Membership meeting will appoint all vacancies of officers on the Board of Directors.
4. Directors must be residents of the State of Nebraska and members in good standing and shall have been a member of the NHCA for at least one year.
5. The Directors shall be responsible for the general management of the affairs of the NHCA. They shall make and enforce all the rules of the NHCA. They shall use their discretion in adopting rules recommended by the respective Committees or by the general membership.
6. The Directors may, after a hearing, censure, suspend, or expel any officers, or members of any committee of the NHCA whose conduct shall be found to be prejudicial to the best interest of the NHCA, or in violation of the Bylaws or Rules of the NHCA.
7. At all meetings of the Board of Directors a majority of its members shall constitute a quorum.
8. The Board of Directors shall keep a record of its proceedings and shall report at the Annual Meeting of the NHCA, or at any general meeting, any matters which in its judgment require the action of the members.
9. The officers of the NHCA shall hold the same office on the Board of Directors.
10. When a NHCA Board action passes or fails (by one vote) the board members in minority voice, may submit the proposal to the next general membership meeting for consideration. A 2/3 majority by voting membership is needed to overturn board actions.
11. All meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the direction of the President or at the direction of three or more Directors. Meetings will be held only after five days notice, unless held in the presence of at least six (6) Directors.
12. The Board shall delegate to various committees such duties and powers as it shall deem necessary and advisable.
13. The Directors shall receive no compensation for services as Directors, nor shall they be compensated for expenses incurred in connection with attendance at meetings. The only exception to this is the Secretary is paid \$350.00 and the Treasurer is paid \$150.00 annually at the end of the year, upon successful completion of their assigned duties.
14. Directors, other than the President, may be appointed as Committee Chairpersons.

15. Upon recommendation of the Board of Directors 2/3 majority of voting Directors may remove any member(s) of the Board of Directors, for cause. Deliberation of removal for cause shall be preceded by ten (10) days written notice to all Directors of Board.

16. Board members must attend 50% of the meetings and must help with Icebreaker Show and Jamboree Show or find someone to volunteer for them on those the day those shows are held.

ARTICLE VII – ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

1. Election of officers will be held during the annual fall general membership meeting.

2. Nominations: Prior to the elections, the President shall appoint a nominating committee and committee chairman. They will meet for the purpose of identification of a qualified and willing nominee for each office. Nominees should be contacted; an acceptance signature obtained and turned in to the NHCA Secretary at least 2 weeks prior to the annual meeting if possible. If the elected person is unable or unwilling to fulfill their duties, the NHCA board will then select the replacement among themselves. The committee chairman will nominate their candidate at the time of the election. Additional nominations for each office may be made from the floor prior to balloting.

3. Balloting: Following opportunity to nominate from the floor, and following passage of a motion of cessation of nominations, when one name appears on the slate, the presiding officer may proceed to call for an election by acclamation. When two or more names are on the slate, the vote will be taken by ballot (one vote/membership). Prior to balloting, all nominees will be identified and given an opportunity to speak. Following balloting, the votes will be tabulated and results announced. The voting and announcement of results for each office must be concluded prior to proceeding to nominations for any subsequent office.

ARTICLE VIII – INDEMNIFICATION

Each officer, director and committee member of the NHCA shall be indemnified by the Club against all costs, expenses and liabilities reasonably incurred by him/her in connection with or resulting from any action, suit or proceeding to which he/she may be made a party by reason of having held their NHCA office or appointment. An exception to this rule would be in relation to matters which shall have been occasioned by the willful misconduct or dishonesty of such an officer, director or committee member. The foregoing indemnification shall cover amounts paid in settlement of any such action, suit or proceeding when such settlement appears to be in the interest of the Club. The foregoing rights shall be in addition to other rights to which such officer, director or committee member may be entitled as a matter of law.

ARTICLE IX – COMMITTEES

1. The standing committees of the NHCA shall include: Show Committee, Awards Committee, Bylaws and Rules Committee, Officer Nominating Committee.

2. The President subject to the approval of the Board of Directors shall appoint all committee chairpersons. Remaining members of such committees shall be appointed by said Chairperson with the counseling of the President, and must be current members in good standing in the NHCA.

3. Each standing committee shall be composed of three (3) or more members and shall serve throughout the fiscal year.
4. All chairpersons and members of committees are subject to removal by the President and the President is an ex-officio member of all standing committees.
5. Additional committees may be created by the President at his/her discretion.

ARTICLE X – MEETING

1. There shall be an Annual Meeting of the NHCA and such other meetings as called by the President or by three (3) members of the Board of Directors.
2. The membership shall be given reasonable notice of the time and place of the meeting.
3. Annual meetings shall be held between the first day of October and 15th day of December. Members shall be notified at last ten (10) days in advance of the meeting. Election of officers shall take place.
4. All meetings shall include: Approval of Minutes, Reports of Officers, Reports of Committees, Old Business, New Business and Adjournment.
5. At a Membership Meeting, must be present to vote. No proxy votes may be cast.

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENT OF THE BYLAWS OR ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

1. A proposed amendment to the bylaws shall be presented in writing to the membership at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting at which it will be voted upon.
2. A vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present shall be necessary to pass an amendment to the Bylaws.
3. The Articles of Incorporation may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors or as provided by the statutes of the State of Nebraska at the time of such amendment.

ARTICLE XII – DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the NHCA, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation as outlined in ARTICLE II. All the assets of the NHCA will be tendered to an organization, which qualifies as an exempt organization under the United States Internal Revenue Law. First consideration is to be given to the University of Nebraska Extension with the stipulation that the funds go to the Nebraska State 4-H Horse Show.

The above stated NHCA Bylaws were ratified and voted on by the NHCA general membership at the Fall General Membership Meeting November 20th of 2010.