

BCQHA

BRITISH COLUMBIA QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME:

The name of the Society is the “British Columbia Quarter Horse Association” herein called the Association.

2. PURPOSES:

The purposes of the Association are to promote and encourage the development and improvement of the Quarter Horse Breed. The Association shall be an organization affiliated with the American Quarter Horse Association and shall promote the objectives of the American Quarter Horse Association:

- 2.1 By promoting, under the rules and regulations of the American Association, approved shows and contests.
- 2.2 By carrying out the publicity and promotional activities within its territorial boundaries.
- 2.3 By supporting the Canadian Quarter Horse Association.
- 2.4 By promoting and developing the Canadian Quarter Horse industry.
- 2.5 Operating in accordance with the official American Quarter Horse Association rulebook.
- 2.6 Operating in accordance with the official British Columbia Quarter Horse Association rulebook.

3. BOUNDARIES:

The operations of the Association are to be carried on in the Province of British Columbia. This provision is unalterable.

BY-LAWS

1. MEMBERS:

- 1.1 Membership in the Association shall be open to applicants who indicate an interest in the purposes of the Association. There shall be three types of memberships:
 - (i) Honorary Members: The Association may by a special resolution appoint Honorary Members.
 - (ii) Annual Members: Annual Members shall be those individuals, partnerships or companies who pay the prescribed Annual Membership fee.
 - (iii) Junior Members: A person that has not yet reached their nineteenth birthday by the first of January of the year joining and who does not wish to vote or hold office in the Association may enroll as a junior member, but such membership shall cease upon attaining the age of nineteen.
- 1.2 All members in good standing shall enjoy the same rights and privileges and be subject to the same liabilities as any other member.
- 1.3 A member in good standing is a member who is not in arrears in any fees, dues, or assessments levied by this Association, or who has not been suspended by the American Quarter Horse Association.
- 1.4 The financial liability of any member to the Association shall be limited the amount of their membership and registration and other fees.
- 1.5 The membership and fiscal year of the Association shall be January 1st to December 31st.
- 1.6 The Board of Directors shall have the power to suspend or expel any member, who fails to observe any rule or regulation set forth in this constitution or whose conduct is, in the opinion of the Board, prejudicial to the interest of the Association. Particulars of any such suspension or expulsion shall be reported to the American Association. A member so suspended or expelled shall for a period of thirty days, have the right to appeal. The Board of Directors, after reviews of the circumstances, may either order the reinstatement of the member or continue for a stated period the suspension or expulsion or impose such other disciplinary action as may be provided in the Constitution, By-laws, rules and regulations of the American Association.

2. OFFICES:

- 2.1 The head office of the Association shall be at such place within the territorial boundaries of the Association as the Board of Directors, may from time to time determine.

3. OFFICERS/ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS:

- 3.1 The affairs of the Association shall be conducted by a Board of Directors, consisting of two Elected Representatives from each of the recognized geographical zone associations, American Quarter Horse Association Directors, the immediate Past President, a Secretary/Treasurer, one American Quarter Horse Youth Association Advisor, one British Columbia Amateur Representative, and one liaison person to the official publication of the Association. Directors shall be appointed at each annual general meeting of the Association. The term of directorship shall be two years and they shall hold office until their successors are duly elected or appointed.
- 3.2 To be a Director of the Association a member must have been a member of the Association in good standing for a minimum period of twelve months prior to their election or appointment and must be residents of the Province of British Columbia.
- 3.3 The Board of Directors shall elect the President and Vice-President from members of the said Boards at a meeting following adjournment of the Annual General Meeting. In the case of a tie vote, the Presiding Officer, who shall be the immediate Past-President, shall cast the deciding vote, being the only vote the immediate Past-President shall have.
- 3.4 The Board of Directors shall have the power to fill casual vacancies, which may occur among the Directors through resignation, death or other causes.
- 3.5 The Board of Directors shall have power, upon a majority vote by the Directorship, at any time and from time to time to borrow, raise or secure the payment of money in such manner as they may think fit for the purpose of carrying out the objectives of the Association, subject to the Society Act.
- 3.6 The Director or Officer who is absent from three consecutive Directors meetings of the Association, shall, unless the Directors have excused such absence, cease to be a Director.
- 3.7 Each zone association as provided for elsewhere herein shall appoint directors. In lieu of appointment by zone association, the Association Annual General Meeting may elect a Zone Representative.
- 3.8 The Board of Directors shall have the power to remove any appointed director or officer by the Board of Directors, who fails to observe any rule or regulation set forth in this constitution or whose conduct is, in the opinion of the Board, prejudicial to the interest of the Association. The Elected Representatives from each of the recognized geographical zone associations can be removed by other members in their recognized geographical zone if the representative, who fails to observe any rule or regulation, set forth in this constitution or whose conduct is, in the opinion of the recognized geographical zone member, prejudicial to the interest of the Association. Particulars of any such removal

shall be reported to the Association. A director or officer or representatives so removed shall for a period of thirty days, have the right to appeal. The Board of Directors, after reviews of the circumstances, may either order the reinstatement of the director or officer or representatives or continue for a stated period the removal or impose such other disciplinary action as may be provided in the Constitution, By-laws, rules and regulations of the American Association.

4. DUTIES OF DIRECTORS AND OTHERS:

4.1 The President shall hold office for a term of one year but not more than two successive years or until a successor is elected. The duties of the President shall be to preside at all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors, to exercise a general supervision and management over the affairs of the Association and generally to do all matters, acts and things as are usually done by presidents of similar organizations. The President shall be a member of all Committees.

4.2 The Vice-President shall hold office for a term of one year and in the absence of the President performs all the duties of that office.

4.3 The Board of Directors shall from time to time as occasion require appoint a Secretary and a Treasurer, or a Secretary-Treasurer who may but shall not be required to be a Director or Directors and who shall act under the control and with the approval of the Board of Directors. The duties of the Secretary shall be to attend all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors and keep proper minutes of the proceedings of it and to do such other things as may be delegated to them by this Constitution and Board of Directors.

The Treasurer shall deposit all moneys received in a Chartered Bank to the Credit of this Association and shall pay same by cheque only, countersigned by the President or other authorized officer, shall deposit all securities owned by the Association with a Chartered Bank or in a safety deposit vault on the order of the President or such other officer named by the Board of Directors; shall keep proper books of account and shall furnish from time to time statements in detail of the affairs of the Association or such other matters as may be directed by the Board of Directors.

4.4 The members of the Association at each Annual General Meeting shall appoint an Auditor, or Auditors at a remuneration to be stipulated, or if none be stipulated, to be determined by the Board of Directors or alternatively the members of the Association at each Annual General Meeting may appoint two members of the Association, who are not Directors, as an audit committee. The duty of the Auditor of the audit committee shall be to examine the books of accounts of the Association, vouchers for all payments and certify the usual statements of receipts and expenditures and assets and liabilities for the year, for presentation at the next Annual General Meeting.

4.5 The Directors shall, at their first meeting after each Annual General Meeting, elect one or more of their number to act on the Executive Committee, who together with the President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer shall constitute this Committee. The Executive Committee shall, between meetings of the Board of Directors, have all the power of the Directors with respect to the operation of the Association except such

powers as are herein or by law specifically reserved to the Directors. Copies of minutes of Executive meetings will be sent to all Directors.

- 4.6 The Association shall nominate members to the Directors of the American Association to hold office under the terms and conditions prescribed in the Constitution of the American Quarter Horse Association. The Association shall elect such members at the Annual General Meeting or the Directors shall appoint failing such election. The Directors shall appoint representatives to other organizations.

5. ZONES AND AFFILIATED OR FRANCHISED CLUBS:

- 5.1 The Association shall recognize a minimum of four geographical zones consisting of the Lower Mainland Quarter Horse Association, the Vancouver Island Quarter Horse Association, the Northern British Columbia Quarter Horse Association and the South Central Quarter Horse Association.
- 5.2 The responsibility of each zone will be to further the purposes of the Association as defined herein.
- 5.3 Subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, members in good standing of this Association resident in communities or districts separated from and not conveniently accessible to other communities or districts within the territorial limits of the Association, may organize District Zones or Quarter Horse Clubs under the Constitution and subject to uniform rules and affiliation agreements to be approved by the Board of Directors.
- 5.4 In order to belong to a zone you must be a member of British Columbia Quarter Horse Association.
- 5.5 Upon the approval of the Board of Directors the following Affiliate Associations will operate within the Association under the rules and the regulations as set forth by the Association and the by the American Quarter Horse Association; the British Columbia Quarter Horse Youth Association, the British Columbia Quarter Horse Association, and the British Columbia Quarter Horse Association of Professional Horsemen.
- 5.6 Zone and Affiliate Associations are subject to the By-laws of the Association and subject to uniform rules and affiliation agreements to be approved by the Board of Directors.

6. MEETINGS:

- 6.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held by April 30 of the subsequent year, at such place as decided upon the Board of Directors of the Association. Other General Meetings shall be held at the time and place fixed by the Board of Directors. Notice at least twenty days in advance of meetings indicating the time and place of any meeting and the text of any resolutions proposed for consideration at the meeting shall be given by technological means, pre-paid postage, or publication in the association newsletter. Notice for Board meetings may also be given by phone.
- 6.2 A copy of the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be sent by mail or technological means within twenty days following such meeting to each Director. Such minutes shall stand if no objection is raised within ten days by anyone who was in attendance at such meeting.

6.3 All meetings of the Association shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

7. AUDIT AND ANNUAL REPORTS:

7.1 The Board of Directors at each Annual General Meeting shall submit a complete report of its acts and of the affairs of the Association. It shall present a detailed statement duly audited as provided for herein, of the receipts and expenditures of the preceding year and of the assets and liabilities of the Association.

8. INCOME AND EXPENSES:

8.1 The Association may levy such Annual or periodical membership fees or assessment for members as set by the members of the Association at the Annual General Meeting. Such fees or assessments shall be paid directly to the Association.

8.2 The income and property of the Association from whatever source derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion and furtherance of the objectives of the Association and no part thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of bonus or otherwise as profit or gain to members of the Association, past, present or future, or any person claiming through any members, provided however that nothing herein contained shall prevent the bona fide payment of remuneration to any Secretary Treasurer, Registrar, Officer, Clerk or servant or other person or persons for services actually rendered the Association, whether such are members of the Association or not, and the expense of the Directors or other officers incurred in doing business of the Association.

9. BY-LAWS & SPECIAL RESOLUTION:

9.1 The Constitution and By-laws may be amended by a special resolution passed at any Annual or General Meeting by the Association by the affirmative vote of a 75% majority of such members as are entitled to vote and who are present in person at such meeting.

9.2 Particulars of such constitutional amendments shall be included in the notice calling such meeting.

10. SUSPENSIONS:

10.1 A suspended member is a member who has been suspended by the Board of Directors of this or the American Association or who, as a member, has been placed on probation by the Record Committees of the American Association, or who automatically suspends himself/herself because he/she has not conformed to the rules and regulations of this Association or the American Association.

11. SHOWS AND CONTESTS:

11.1 The rules and regulations of the American Quarter Horse Association and the British Columbia Quarter Horse Association shall apply to staging of shows or contests by the

Association. The Board of Directors may enact Rules and Regulations consistent with those of the American Quarter Horse Association from time to time.

- 11.2 The terms and conditions under which Annual or other awards are made shall be determined and enacted by the Board of Directors of the Association. If there are one or more persons in one family who owns registered quarter horses, each of these owners must be members of this Association in order for those horses to collect British Columbia Quarter Horse Association points.
- 11.3 Approval by both the British Columbia Quarter Horse Association and the American Quarter Horse Association will be prerequisite to the approval of shows or contests by the Association.

12. RESOLUTIONS, MOTIONS AND VOTING:

- 12.1 Only members in good standing shall hold office or be entitled to vote at a general meeting or to give notice of any motion including constitutional amendments and each such member on any question shall be entitled to one vote.
- 12.2 Any member may make or Second a motion for consideration at an annual or general meeting of the Association provided the motion is prefaced with “The Directors shall give consideration to...”.
- 12.3 Questions at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes save where statute or the By-laws otherwise provide. In case of an equality of votes, the Chairman of the meeting shall have second deciding vote.