

**BY-LAWS OF
ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI, INC.**

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

The name of this organization shall be Arabian Horse Association of Mississippi, Inc. Hereinafter referred to as AHAM or Association.

**ARTICLE II
OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSE**

1. To aid, encourage, and achieve the perpetuation and exhibiting of Arabian and Half-Arabian horses.
2. To promote and coordinate the efforts and activities of all interested parties in Arabian horse events on local, state, regional, and national levels.
3. To encourage, promote, and assist in the development of local Arabian riding clubs, with the specific purpose of encouraging Arabian participation in local open horse show events. Likewise, AHAM will seek to familiarize local open show judges with standards for judging Arabian horses in both Halter and Performance classes.
4. To study, collect, and distribute useful information regarding the history, characteristics, breeding, and genetics of Arabian horses.
5. To encourage and coordinate the efforts and activities of Arabian breeders in the development and maintenance of the highest possible quality in Arabian horse breeding standards, efforts, and practice.
6. To foster and encourage good relations between AHAM members and other associations and individuals involved in the perpetuation of the Arabian horse.
7. As an Arabian Horse Association (AHA) chartered club, AHAM shall abide by the current rules of AHA.

**ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP, VOTING, AND DUES**

1. Application for initial membership shall be made on such form and in such manner As determined by the Association and shall be reviewed and approved and disapproved by the Board of Directors. Application must be accompanied by payment of dues for the current year. Any applicant approved by AHAM agrees to abide by and support the By- Laws of this Association.
2. There shall be three classes of membership:
 - a. Individual (18 & over), must also be a member of the Arabian Horse Association
 - b. Associate (individual or family), No AHA voting privileges
 - c. Youth (17 & under), with Parental consent
3. An individual member shall be entitled to one vote on any matter coming before the Membership.

4. An Associate (non-AHA) member is entitled to one vote on any issue of AHAM. If the Associate membership is for a family, one adult family member may vote. Associate member may not vote on any matter concerning AHA and are not eligible to hold Office or serve on the Board of Directors. Associate members may participate in AHAM High Point, Futurity, and may receive any communication originated by AHAM. **NOTE:** Those non-AHA members pay a Single Event non-member fee as designated by AHA.
5. A Youth member is not entitled to vote, but may participate in AHAM High Point, Futurity, and receive any communication originated by AHAM. **NOTE:** Those non-AHA members pay a Single Event non-member fee as designated by AHA.
6. Each member shall pay annual dues. Annual dues will cover a period from date of dues payment for 1 year. (i.e. May 1 – May 31)
7. Any member who has not paid dues by their Anniversary Date of each year shall be dropped from membership.
8. Voting shall be by secret ballot for any office for which there is more than one candidate. Voting by mail, phone, or proxy shall not be permitted. (Re: Article VI Para)
9. A member may resign by submitting written resignation to the AHAM President. Dues are not refunded to a member who resigns.
10. Any member who shall have resigned or who shall have been dropped from membership may be reinstated provided they submit an application for membership with applicable dues.
11. Membership shall be terminated for any member who fails to abide by AHAM By-Laws, the respective By-Laws of AHA, and the respective By-Laws of Region 12.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS AND DUTIES

1. The Officers of AHAM shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board of Directors. These Officers must reside in the State of Mississippi and be members in Good Standing for a Minimum of TWO (2) consecutive years.
2. Officers will be Elected the second Sunday in December of each year, and will take office on January 1. Officers shall hold office for a period of one year. The term limit on an office is two consecutive years.
3. Officers who miss two consecutive scheduled meeting without adequate cause may be removed from office.
4. The President shall preside at all general and Board of Directors Meeting of the Association. The President shall appoint all special committees and chairpersons, and shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees. The President shall conduct the business of the Association in accordance with AHAM BY-Laws.
5. The Vice-President shall preside at all General and Board of Directors meetings of the Association in the absence of, or at the request of, the President.
6. The Vice-President shall act as chairperson of the Nominating Committee.
7. In the event of vacancy in the office of President, the Vice-President shall succeed to that office for the unexpired term.

8. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings, safeguard the records of the Association, and shall be ex-officio Secretary of all Board Meetings.
9. The Secretary shall conduct, supervise, count, and record the balloting of all elections.
10. The Secretary shall notify all AHAM members, by phone or in writing, of the date, place, and time of any upcoming meeting. This notification shall be done at least fourteen (14) days in advance of meeting.
11. The Secretary shall handle all correspondence and communications approved by the President and perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office, including those specifically assigned by the President and /or the Board of Directors.
12. The Secretary will be responsible for publication of the Association newsletter unless a Publicity Chairperson has been appointed by the President.
13. The Treasurer shall keep and safeguard the funds of the Association and keep accurate records of same. All financial transactions will be through the AHAM bank Account.
14. The Treasurer shall transmit a monthly itemized Receipts, Disbursements and Balance Report to the Officers and Directors by the 10th of the following month. Copies of the RDB will be available at all scheduled meetings. A copy of the RDB will be transmitted to any AHAM member upon request.
15. The Officers will audit Treasurer Records and bank statements prior to transferring records to incoming officers. The President and Treasurer must have all banking records ready for the CPA by January 10th of each year in order to file State Required ANNUAL REPORT.
16. Vacancies in the Officers of the Association, except that of the President, shall be filled by a member elected through a majority vote of a quorum of the Board of Directors. (Re: Article V.,4) Those so elected shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.
17. Officers must be individual affiliated voting members of AHA at the time of election and throughout their term of Office.

ARTICLE V DIRECTORS AND DUTIES

1. The Board of Directors of the Association shall consist of seven (7) members: President, Vice-President, most recent past President, and four (4) elected by majority vote of a quorum of the General membership present at the Election Meeting.
2. Those Directors elected by the General Membership shall hold office for a period of one (1) year.
3. If the most recent past President is unable to serve on the Board that position will be filled by majority vote of a quorum of the General Membership present at the Election Meeting and shall serve a term of one (1) year.
4. A quorum at any Board of Directors meeting shall be three (3) or more Directors. No business shall be conducted until a quorum is present.

5. No two elected members on the Board of Directors may be from the same household, with the exception of the most recent past President.
6. The Directors may, by majority vote of a quorum at the next Board meeting, fill vacancies among Officers and Directors when required. Those so appointed shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. However, vacated office of President shall be filled by the Vice-President for the remainder of the unexpired term.
7. Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President and any three (3) members of the Board or any four (4) general members in good standing. Directors shall receive written or telephone notice of the date, time, and place of each meeting at least fourteen (14) days in advance. Board of Directors meeting is open to all AHAM members in good standing.
8. The duties of the Directors shall be to advise the Association in promoting, encouraging, and fostering interest in the Arabian horse.
9. The Directors shall review and act upon potential member applications and function in the capacity of an Ethics Review Committee.
10. All Directors must be individual affiliate voting members of AHA the time of election and throughout their term of office.

ARTICLE VI MEETINGS

1. There shall be an Election Meeting scheduled for the second (2) Sunday in December of each year.
2. There shall be minimum of four (4) General Membership meetings a year plus any additional meeting(s) deemed necessary by the President and /or General Membership
3. The time and place of the General meeting shall be designated by the Board of Directors or by approval of the General Membership/ All members shall receive written or telephone notice of each meeting at least fourteen (14) days in advance.
4. A quorum of at least 25% of the voting membership in good standing must be present to allow a vote at any General or Election Meeting.
5. To determine a quorum, a complete, current list of members in good standing shall be available for review at each General or Election Meeting.
6. Voting shall be by secret ballot for any office for which there is more than one (1) candidate. Decisions shall be based on, or candidates elected by, a majority vote of the quorum. Voting by mail, proxy, or phone is not permitted.
7. Roberts Rule of Order shall be followed at meetings when not inconsistent with AHAM By-Laws.

ARTICLE VII FINANCIAL

1. Arabian Horse Association of Mississippi is a non-profit organization. All funds shall be used in accordance with the stated purpose of AHAM and to provide for the continued functioning of the Association
2. The funds of the Association shall be kept in the bank account of AHAM and shall be controlled by the current treasurer. The current Treasurer and President must both sign all checks disbursed. With the

exception of the Show Account which will be controlled by the Show Manager and the President.

3. No expense over \$100.00 may be incurred without prior approval from the President, Treasurer, and an elected member of the current Board of Directors. Upon Approval, the President shall submit a signed, written request to the Treasurer to pay any expense in excess of \$100.00 and this request shall be retained in the files of the Treasurer.
4. All expense under \$100.00 must be approved in advance by the President and Treasurer.
5. The Association will not be liable for any unauthorized expense. Any person incurring a debt in the name of the Association that has not obtained approval though the procedure named herein shall be held personally liable for the debt.
6. At the close of the fiscal year, financial records shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors.
7. Directors will audit financial records prior to transferring to incoming officers. (Re. AHAM Article III, 5)
8. Should the Association be dissolved, any remaining assets shall be donated to Region 12 Youth Education purposes.

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

1. The President and /or the Board of Directors may at any time appoint a committee to handle the affairs of any given project provided it is within the purpose of and in agreement with the By-Laws of the Association.
2. The Nomination Committee shall consist of four (4) members: the Vice-President, acting as chairperson, on Director appointed by the President, and two (2) other members elected by majority vote of a quorum of the General Membership present at the Election Meeting. If possible, the two elected members of the Nomination Committee should not be Officers or members of the Board
3. The duties of any committee shall be specified at the time of appointment. Chairpersons of all committees shall serve for a period of one year unless re-appointed or re-elected for another term.
4. The Association Secretary shall maintain a record of the names and specified duties of each committee along with a roster including the name, address, phone number, and if available, E-mail address of the Chairperson and Committee Members.
5. The Chairperson of each committee shall, at the conclusion of the project, give a report to the General Membership outlining the activities and accomplishments of the Committee.
6. The President and /or a majority of the Board for Directors may declare a committee chairmanship vacant because of non-performance of duties and may appoint a successor.

**ARTICLE IX
AMENDMENTS**

1. These By-Laws may be altered and amended at any General Meeting of the Association providing a quorum of both the Board of Directors and General Membership is present. For a Quorum definition refer to AHAM Article V, 4 and Article VI, 4
2. Proposed amendments must be presented in writing to the President and All members at least fourteen (14) days prior to consideration at any Association Meeting.
3. Within thirty (30) days, a copy of all amendments passed shall be signed, dated, and sent to AHA. This transmission shall include a cover letter signed by both the Association President and Secretary.

Tim Knight President

Date

Andrea Brown Secretary

Date