

**BY-LAWS OF THE  
MARYLAND ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION**

**ARTICLE I**

**NAME:**

Pursuant to its Articles of Incorporation under the laws of the State of Maryland, the name of this organization shall be MARYLAND ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION (MAHA), and it shall be a nonprofit corporation. The organization will hereinafter be referred to as "Association."

**ARTICLE II**

**OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES:**

The objectives and purposes of the Association shall be to:

1. Promote, encourage and stimulate interest in the many outstanding uses and qualities of Arabian horses.
2. Formulate educational programs and other activities in the interest of Arabian horse owners and enthusiasts.
3. Aid and encourage the selective breeding, exhibiting, use and perpetuation of Arabian horses.
4. Foster and encourage good relations between the Association members and other associations, especially the Arabian Horse Association (AHA)
5. Perform any or all things necessary and appropriate to accomplish the objectives and purposes as stated herein.

**ARTICLE III**

**MEMBERS:**

**Section 1: Membership**

- A. **AHA LIFE (VOTING)** -- a life member of AHA who has listed this Association as his/her "designated" Association. May vote, hold office and/or be an AHA delegate in this Association.
- B. **AHA INDIVIDUAL AFFILIATE (VOTING)** -- any person 18 years or older who is interested in all of the objectives and purposes of the Association including membership in the Arabian Horse Association. The member may vote, hold office and/or be an AHA delegate through this Association. The member is also eligible to vote, hold office, be on a committee and/or be a delegate at the regional and national levels of AHA.
- C. **INDIVIDUAL NON-AHA AFFILIATE (VOTING)** -- any person 18 years or older who is interested in all of the objectives and purposes of the Association. The member may be a member of the Board-at-Large and committees. The individual NON-AHA member may vote at the MAHA level only, cannot hold office or be an AHA delegate through this Association.
- D. **FAMILY (VOTING)** -- membership to include one vote per membership who are interested in all of the objectives and purposes of the Association and residing at the same address. The adult member(s) may vote at the MAHA level only, can hold office or be an AHA delegate through this Association if the individual of the family holds an AHA membership. Family members may be a member of the Board-at-Large and committees.

**Section 2: Dues**

- A. All members shall pay the Association annual dues in such amount and at such time as prescribed by the Board of Directors.
- B. Any member not having paid dues by February First (1st) of each year shall be dropped from the Association without notification and shall have no further rights or privileges of membership until dues are paid.

**ARTICLE IV**

**MEETINGS:**

- A. There shall be no less than one (1) Annual General Membership Meeting throughout the calendar year. Time and place of said meeting is to be determined by the Board of Directors.

B. A special meeting of the members may be called at any time by the President.

## ARTICLE V

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- A. The business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as the Board) consisting of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, immediate past President and no less than two members no more than six in good standing elected as Directors-at-Large.
- B. The number of Directors-at-Large to be elected shall be decided by the current Board based on the number of members in the Association
- C. The Board shall meet as necessary to conduct the business of the Association. Time and place of these meetings shall be set by the Board.
- D. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Board.
- E. All vacancies on the Board, except that of President, shall be filled by appointment by the Board. Those so appointed shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. The office of President shall be filled by the Vice-President for the remainder of the unexpired term.

## ARTICLE VI

### ELECTION:

- A. The annual election of Officers and Directors-at-Large of the Association shall be conducted by paper ballot at the last Annual Meeting of the calendar year. An electronic- ballot will be sent upon request of any voting member unable to attend the Annual Meeting.
- B. The Officers and Directors-at-Large elected by ballot shall assume office at the first meeting of the Association or Board after the election.

## ARTICLE VII

### OFFICERS:

- A. The Officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, and such other officers as the Board may appoint.
- B. The duties of the President shall be as follows:
  - 1. The President shall be the chief executive officer and shall conduct and manage the affairs and business of the Association.
  - 2. The President shall preside at all Association meetings and meetings of the Board.
  - 3. The President shall appoint all committees, subject to approval of the Board, and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, except Nominating.
- C. The duties of the Vice-President shall be as follows:
  - 1. The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence or inability to act, or at the President's request.
  - 2. The Vice-President shall act as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee.
  - 3. The Vice-President shall have other duties as may be specifically delegated to him/her by the President.
- D. The duties of the Secretary shall be as follows:
  - 1. The Secretary shall keep a complete record of the proceedings of all meetings of members and of the Board, and of action taken by the Board.
  - 2. The Secretary shall handle all correspondence approved by the President.
  - 3. The Secretary may have other duties delegated to him/her by the President.
- E. The duties of the Treasurer shall be as follows:
  - 1. The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds of the Association, which shall be

deposited in a banking institution in the name of the Association.

2. The Treasurer shall keep a full and accurate account of all receipts and disbursements, prepare and present an itemized statement at the Annual Meeting, and prepare and present such interim reports as may be required by the President.

3. The Treasurer shall issue checks in payment of the obligations of the Association only as authorized by the President or the Board.

4. The Treasurer shall act as the Membership Chairperson unless one is appointed separately by the President.

5. The Treasurer may have other duties delegated to him/her by the President.

F. The Board, at the request of the President, may appoint such assistant officers as will facilitate and expedite the carrying on of the affairs and business of the Association.

G. Each Officer at the expiration of the term of office or in the case of resignation shall transfer all records pertaining to that office to the succeeding officer within two (2) weeks.

#### **ARTICLE VIII**

#### **DELEGATES TO THE ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION:**

Delegates and alternates shall be elected at the annual election of Officers. These candidates shall be approved by the Board of Directors before being placed on the slate of candidates. Approval shall be based on length of AHA membership, number of Region 15 meetings attended and previous attendance at AHA conventions.

#### **ARTICLE IX**

#### **COMMITTEES AND THEIR FUNCTIONS:**

A. The President may appoint the following committees: Any member in good standing may chair and participate in a committee(s), and hold a director position and should be an AHA member.

1. Breed Promotion and Public Relations - To plan and carry out promotional activities concerning Arabian horses and the Association.

2. Activities - To plan and organize activities for the membership to enjoy.

3. Membership - To promote membership in the Association, maintain a supply of current membership forms, explain the Association and its' programs to prospective members, and welcome new members to the Association.

4. Trail - To promote the Arabian as a trail horse and to plan and conduct activities related thereunto.

5. Media - To gather information, and distribute to the membership via postal, email, website or approved social media channels.

6. Nominating - To present a slate of Officers, Directors and Delegates to the membership. Nominations should be gathered and sent to the general membership by media no later than November 30<sup>th</sup> each year.

B. The President may appoint other special committees as needed.

#### **ARTICLE X**

#### **AMENDMENT:**

A. The membership of this Association may, by a majority vote of members present and voting, alter, amend, suspend or annul these By-Laws at any Regular Meeting called for that purpose.

B. A copy of proposed By-Laws amendments shall be sent to all voting members fifteen (15) days before the meeting called for that purpose.

C. Any AHA voting member in good standing may propose by-law amendments via written submission to the Association Board.

#### **ARTICLE XI**

#### **DISSOLUTION:**

The Maryland Arabian Horse Association may be dissolved upon recommendation of the Board of Directors and a majority vote of members present and voting. Fifteen (15) days notice will be sent to the general membership before the meeting called for that purpose. In anticipation of dissolution of the Association, any funds in the Association's treasury shall be used for the continuation of existing activities until there are no funds remaining. If existing activities cannot be continued, any funds in the Association's treasury will become the property of the Arabian Horse Association.