

# CONSTITUTION OF THE KANSAS HONEY PRODUCERS

## PREAMBLE

In order to better promote the use and marketing of honey, to promote better beekeeping practices within the State of Kansas, and to increase harmony and cooperation among the beekeepers of Kansas, we as members of the beekeeping and honey producing industry of the State of Kansas do hereby join together and establish the Constitution and By-Laws.

## ARTICLE I--NAME

The name of this organization shall be The Kansas Honey Producers Association.

## ARTICLE II--PURPOSE

The purpose of this Association shall be to advance and foster the interests of Kansas honey producers by promoting honey and other bee-related products, securing beneficial legislation, developing a spirit of mutual encouragement and cooperation, increasing knowledge of bees and beekeeping practices, and inviting into membership all beekeepers residing within or managing bees within the State of Kansas.

## ARTICLE III--MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1:** Any person interested in apiculture and who is in agreement with the purpose of this association may apply for membership.

**Section 2:** The membership dues of The Kansas Honey Producers Association may be set at the Spring Meeting and shall take effect the following January 1st. Membership dues are payable by January 31st each year and are considered delinquent after that date.

**Section 3:** Provision may be made of Life Membership to be granted. Guidelines for Life Membership may be set or revised at any regularly called meeting of the Association.

## ARTICLE IV--OFFICERS

**Section 1:** The officers of the Kansas Honey Producers Association shall be the President, three Vice-Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer, and shall be legal residents of the State of Kansas.

**Section 2:** The term of office shall be one year or until a successor is qualified.

**Section 3:** The duties of the Officers shall be:

**PRESIDENT:** In charge of all business  
Ex Officio Member of all committees  
Oversee the general work of the organization

- FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT:** Program Chairman  
Work closely with the President and other officers  
Substitute for President as required  
Report to Executive Committee and general membership
- SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT:** Oversee or be liaison person for State Fair Booth  
Oversee or be liaison person for other booths,  
presentations, or exhibits by the Association  
Oversee, render assistance to, and be liaison to State  
Apiary Operations  
Report to the Executive Committee and general  
membership
- THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT:** Oversee or be liaison person for State Honey Queen  
Program  
Give assistance to Kansas Honey Producers Auxiliary  
Report to the Executive Committee and general membership
- SECRETARY:** Keep minutes of all meetings  
Take care of any and all correspondence for the Executive  
Committee and general meeting  
Conduct registration at meeting
- TREASURER:** Receive and keep an accurate record of all monies for  
Association  
Pay bills approved by the Executive Committee  
Complete any and all financial statements required by  
the Internal Revenue Service or other agencies  
Work closely with Secretary and Editor of Newsletter to  
provide accurate membership information  
Assist Secretary at registration at meetings and receive  
registration fees

#### ARTICLE V--EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Section 1:** The Executive Committee shall consist of the regularly elected officers of the Association.

**Section 2:** The Executive Committee shall have the power to transact any and all business between meetings of the Kansas Honey Producers Association. The Executive Committee may adopt, direct, and make such policies as are deemed necessary during such periods.

**Section 3:** The Executive Committee shall meet prior to the general meeting or meetings of the Association in order to establish the Agenda for the business meeting and facilitate transactions during the business meeting.

#### ARTICLE VI--ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

**Section 1:** For the purposes of better understanding the needs of honey producers in various parts of the State and for the promotion of honey, bees, and bee-related products, an Association Council composed of the members of the Executive Committee and six Council Members may be formed.

**Section 2:** For the purposes stated above, the State of Kansas shall be divided into six regions with one representative being elected from each region.

**Section 3:** The term of office for each representative shall be three years. No person may serve in the office of representative more than two consecutive terms.

**Section 4:** The representatives to the Association Council are advisory only and without vote. They shall carry out the duties assigned them by the Executive Committee or the regular meeting.

**Section 5:** The Association Council shall hold such meetings as may be required to fulfill the purposes of the Kansas Honey Producers Association.

#### ARTICLE VII--FISCAL YEAR

The Fiscal Year of the Kansas Honey Producers Association shall be the calendar year.

#### ARTICLE VIII--GOVERNMENT

**Section 1:** The Kansas Honey Producers Association shall be governed by rules and regulations established by a majority of members present and voting at a regularly or specially called meeting.

**Section 2:** Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall serve as guide for the business meeting, voting, and discussion.

#### ARTICLE IX--MEETINGS

**Section 1:** There shall be at least one regularly called meeting of the Kansas Honey Association each year. Under normal circumstances, two regular meetings; one in the Spring, and one in the Fall shall be held each year.

**Section 2:** The regular meeting shall be held at a time and place to designated by the Executive Committee. The time and place of said meeting shall be published not less than thirty days before the meeting date in the official publication of the organization.

**Section 3:** The Executive Committee shall have power to call special meetings when deemed necessary. Notice of such meetings may be given in the official publication of the organization, provided that it is published and mailed not less than ten days before the date of the special meeting. Otherwise, the Executive Committee shall notify the membership of the special meeting by sending written notice to the members not less than ten days before the special meeting.

**Section 4:** Fifteen members in good standing shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 5:** The meeting shall follow the Agenda given in Part II of the By-Laws.

**Section 6:** All matters to be submitted to the regular meeting shall be previously submitted to the Executive Committee for preliminary deliberation. The President shall have the privilege of ruling out of order any such matters brought before the meeting contrary to this provision.

**Section 7:** Except as otherwise provided in the Constitution and By-Laws, all matters shall be decided by majority vote of those present and voting.

**Section 8:** In the case of a Special Meeting, only those matters for which the meeting was called may be discussed and acted upon.

**Section 9:** Only members in good standing (whose Membership Dues are paid for the current year) shall be allowed the privilege of voice and vote at the meeting.

## **ARTICLE X--ELECTIONS**

**Section 1:** At the meeting previous to the General Meeting in which Election of Officers is held (normally the Election of Officers occurs at the Fall Meeting), a Nominating Committee or not less than three nor more than five persons shall be appointed to secure a slate of candidates for the election.

**Section 2:** Only those who are members in good standing shall be permitted to vote.

**Section 3:** In order to be a candidate for any office in the Association, the person must have been a member in good standing for at least one year prior to their candidacy.

**Section 4:** Election of Officers shall be by secret ballot. To be elected to office, a candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast in the election.

**Section 5:** Nominations for the various offices may be made from the floor of the regular meeting. Those placing a name in nomination shall have determined that the proposed candidate is a member in good standing and is qualified and willing to serve if elected before placing the name into nomination.

## **ARTICLE XI--PROMOTIONAL CATEGORIES**

**Section 1:** The Kansas Honey Producers Association may carry on such promotions of honey, other beekeeping products and practices, and information on pollination practices as may be deemed advisable and may work with other agricultural commodity producer groups and with the Kansas State Board of Agriculture on mutually beneficial projects.

**Section 2:** The Kansas Honey Producers Association may establish and maintain a Honey Queen Program for the purpose of promoting the use of honey.

**Section 3:** The Kansas Honey Producers Association may work with national beekeeping organizations on mutually agreeable projects. A member of the Kansas Honey Producers Association may be designated to attend one or more of the national meetings and bring back a report of decisions, recommendations, and actions to the Association.

## ARTICLE XII--LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

**Section 1:** The Kansas Honey Producers Association may encourage such legislation as may be beneficial to beekeeping, honey sales, and honey quality. The Kansas Honey Producers shall work with various government agencies at various levels to secure beneficial rulings and practices for the honey-producing industry.

**Section 2:** The Kansas Honey Producers Association may work with the Kansas State Board of Agriculture and its divisions and with other producer groups representing agricultural commodities in Kansas to secure beneficial legislation.

## ARTICLE XIII--ASSOCIATION APIARY

The Kansas Honey Producers Association may establish a Kansas Honey Producers Association Apiary for the purposes of teaching beekeeping practices, for the production of honey used in promotional booths, and for providing income for the various activities of the Association. The Executive Committee working in conjunction with decisions made at the regular meetings of the Association shall govern the Kansas Honey Producers Association Apiary.

## ARTICLE XIV--AMENDMENTS

**Section 1:** This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any regular meeting provided that the proposed amendment shall have been published at least thirty days before the meeting in the official publication of the Association.

**Section 2:** This Constitution and By-Laws shall be in effect from the date of adoption at the regular meeting of the organization. All other constitutions are repealed.

## BY-LAWS

### PART I. OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE

The Kansas Honey Producers Association shall designate one person as their official representative for the purpose of receiving legal correspondence. Unless otherwise designated, the person and official address of the Kansas State Apiarist shall be used.

### PART II. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Order of Business at the regular meeting shall consist of:

- a. Call to Order by the President
- b. Approval of minutes of previous meeting
- c. Treasurer's Reports
- d. Introduction of visitors
- e. Reports of standing committees
- f. Unfinished business
- g. New business
- h. Election and installation of officers
- i. Adjournment

### PART III. REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

**Section 1:** For the purpose of electing representatives to the Association Council, the State of Kansas shall be divided into six regions containing similar climate and needs. The regions shall be: NORTHEAST--North of Interstate 70 and East of U.S. 77; SOUTHWEST--South of Interstate 70 and East of U.S. 77; NORTH CENTRAL--North of Interstate 70 and between U.S. 183 and U.S. 77; SOUTH CENTRAL--South of Interstate 70 and between U.S. 183 and U.S. 77; NORTHWEST--North of Interstate 70 and West of U.S. 183; SOUTHWEST--South of Interstate 70 and West of U.S. 183.

**Section 2:** The Regional Representative shall be elected by the members in good standing from that region in attendance at the regular meeting of the Kansas Honey Producers Association. The election of the Representative shall take place immediately following the Election of Officers at the regular Business Meeting.

**Section 3:** The Regional Representative shall be aware of the honey promotion needs and beekeeping needs in that region and shall make such reports as the Executive Committee shall require.

**Section 4:** The Regional Representative shall render any assistance required by the Executive Committee for the carrying out of the purposes of the Association. The Regional Representative may seek the assistance of others in that region in order to complete as assigned task.

**Section 5:** The terms of the six Regional Representatives shall be staggered so that two Regional Representatives are elected each year. The Secretary of the Kansas Honey Producers Association shall make known which Regional Representative are to hold an election that year.

### PART IV. PROMOTION OF KANSAS HONEY AND BEEKEEPING

**Section 1:** The Kansas Honey Producers Association may make use of various opportunities at flower and garden shows, trade shows, and other occasions for promotion of honey and beekeeping produces as may be deemed advisable. Consent and funding shall be obtained by vote of the membership at a regular meeting.

**Section 2:** The Kansas Honey Producers Association may establish a Kansas Honey Queen Program to promote honey at various activities and occasions. The Kansas Honey Queen Program shall be established by vote of the membership at a regular meeting and shall be under the direction of the Third Vice President of the Association.

**Section 3:** The Kansas Honey Producers Association may conduct classes in general or specific areas of beekeeping or colony management either alone or with the assistance of one or more local beekeeping organizations or with the assistance of the office of the State Apiarist. Permission to establish and fund classes shall be obtained from the membership at a regular meeting of the Association.

Section 4: The Kansas Honey Producers Association may designate one or more persons to serve as a legislative committee for the purpose of securing beneficial legislation. The duties of the Legislative Committee shall be established and reviewed periodically by the Executive Committee and the regular meeting. Reports shall be made to the members at the regular meeting of the Association and other appropriate opportunities. Funding and general directions shall be obtained from the Executive Committee and the regular meeting.

#### PART V. "BEEKEEPER OF THE YEAR"

The "Beekeeper of the Year" may be selected annually by a committee consisting of three prior "Beekeepers of the Year." This selection is the sole function of the committee and is not included in the description of any elected officer. The committee shall be appointed by the President of the Association.

#### PART VI. ADDENDUM

All matters not covered by the Constitution and By-Laws shall be covered by resolutions in the minutes of regular or special meetings of the Kansas Honey Producers Association.