

AMENDED BY-LAWS OF  
MID RIVERS SADDLE CLUB  
GOVERNING BYLAWS FOR YEAR **2019**

Board Approved: **November 5, 2018**  
General Membership Approved: **December 3, 2018**

**ARTICLE I**  
**NAME AND LOCATION**

1.1. The name of this corporation, which is a nonprofit organization organized under the NonProfit Corporation Act of the State of Missouri, is Mid Rivers Saddle Club, (hereinafter "Corporation"). The official abbreviation shall be MRSC, Inc., hereinafter referred to as MRSC.

1.2. The principal office of the Corporation shall be situated in the State of Missouri. The principal address shall be that of the registered agent: BSWRA LLC (Brown Smith Wallace) #6 City Place Dr, St. Louis, MO 63141 unless otherwise designated by the Officers/Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE 2**  
**PURPOSE**

2.1. General Purpose. The Corporation is organized and operated for the following general purposes:

(a) Exclusively as a social club organized and operated for the pleasure and recreation of its members within the meaning of 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as amended) or the corresponding provisions of any future United States internal revenue law.

(b) To exercise such of the rights, powers, duties and authority of a nonprofit corporation organized under the Nonprofit Corporation Act of the State of Missouri which are consistent with the preceding paragraph.

(c) The Corporation shall not engage in the business of making its social and recreational facilities available to the general public. Further, the Corporation shall not make any solicitation of the general public to utilize club facilities.

2.2. Specific Purpose. The specific purposes of the Corporation include, without limitation, the following:

(a) To promote education, enjoyment, and sportsmanship through competitive events for horses and their owners.

(b) To provide an economical venue for members of all abilities and skill levels that serves as a training ground for youth, beginner and Adult riders striving to improve their skills in multiple events.

(c) To support TREEhouse of Greater St. Louis (equine assisted therapy programs for individuals with disabilities) through specialty classes at MRSC shows, financial support and other fundraising events.

(d) To promote youth activities for young horsemen and horsewomen through the MRSC Youth Club which encourages sportsmanship, horsemanship and high moral character among its junior members.

### **ARTICLE 3** **MEMBERSHIP**

3.1. Qualification For Membership: The members of the Corporation shall consist of such persons as: 1) apply for membership on a form approved by the Officers/Board of Directors; 2) subscribe to the purposes and goals of the Corporation; 3) agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Corporation as amended from time to time.

4) Upon completion and payment of associated fees with form, application will be processed for acceptance. Any member who is in default in the payment of annual dues shall be considered an inactive member.

5) Individual memberships are restricted to one (1) person, carried in the person's legal name only. Family memberships include person requesting membership, his/her spouse and nonmarried children 18 years and under. All fees must accompany membership application. Membership in MRSC is a privilege, not a right. Membership or membership application may be terminated or rejected by the Officers/Board of Directors for cause detrimental to the interest of MRSC.

3.2. Classes of Members: The membership of the Corporation shall be divided into 4 classes and 1 special youth membership: regular members, weekend only members, walk members and halter/leadline members.

(a) Regular Members. Regular members include all members who purchase a single/individual membership or family membership. These members are eligible for horse/rider nominations.

(b) Weekend Only Members. Weekend only members include all members that purchase a one-time weekend membership. Weekend only members are not eligible for horse/rider nominations. However, they may upgrade their membership and apply for horse nomination at which time points for that show and going forward may be accrued towards year end awards, but not retroactively.

(c) Walk Members. - Walk Members include all members that purchase the walk membership. These members are eligible for horse/rider nominations.

(d) Halter/Leadline Members. Halter/Leadline Members include all members that purchase the halter/leadline membership. These members are eligible for horse/rider nominations.

Membership in Mid River Youth Club (MRyC) is available to MRSC members in good standing who are ages 18 & under as of January 1 of the calendar year. MRyC members shall operate within the parameters set forth by MRSC to promote character, education and sportsmanship of our youth members. MRyC shall be organized and operated by its membership along with two (2) or more adult MRSC members in good standing as approved by MRSC board.

3.3. Membership Dues. All Regular, Walk, Leadline/Halter members shall pay annual membership dues to the Corporation in such amounts and in such manner as the Officers/Board of Directors determines from time to time. In order to be eligible for year-end awards each rider must have paid their membership and nomination at or prior to their first show, all points earned at any shows will not accumulate until paid. Memberships will be accepted through the last show of the season of the current calendar year. There will be no exceptions. Memberships are non-refundable and non-transferrable. Nomination of horse and rider combinations are non-refundable. Nomination of horse and rider combinations are non-transferable once horse has been shown at MRSC. The only exception to horse and rider nomination is Lead Line which only requires a rider nomination.

3.4. Voting Rights. Each Regular Member (must be 19 years of age) in good standing shall be entitled to cast one vote with respect to those matters submitted to the members for action or approval. Individuals who have not paid their membership dues as of January 1 will no longer be able to vote until said membership dues are paid. Leadline, Halter, Walk and Weekend members shall have no voting rights. Votes may be taken by voice, by show of hands or by written ballot.

3.5. Meetings of Members. There shall be an annual meeting of the general membership during the fourth quarter of the calendar year for the purpose of election of officers and members of the Board of Directors for the following year. Officers are elected by vote of a simple majority. Members of the Board of Directors are elected by vote for the persons who receive the most votes for the number of slots up for election. Example: If 2 slots are up for election to the Board of Directors and more than 2 persons are running for those slots, the 2 persons receiving the most votes are elected.

Special meetings of the voting members for any purpose or purposes may be called at any time by the President or by a majority of the Officers/Board of Directors if deemed necessary provided all members have been notified.

At any meeting of the general membership issues that affect the Organization may be discussed and voted upon, an annual meeting in December to include the election of officers and members of the Board of Directors for the coming year.

A quorum of the general members must be present at any general membership meeting for the valid transaction of business. A quorum will consist of those of at least 5% of the general members eligible to vote. Proxy voters are not counted as part of the quorum.

The order of business will be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order as follows:

- Call meeting to order by the President
- Sign in & roll call of officers
- Reading and approval of the minutes
- Officer's reports
- Committee reports
- Old business
- New business
- Special announcements
- Adjournment

All issues not agreed upon by 100% of members in attendance will require a motion by the floor in order to be accepted as a ruling. A second motion will be required to bring the issue to vote. All motions will be discussed and a vote will be taken. A simple majority will carry the vote. All motions passed will be final for the duration of the calendar year unless special circumstances that would be detrimental and/or have negative consequences to the club appearance.

3.6. Notice of Meetings of Members. All members in good standing shall receive public notice of the meeting to include date, time and place a minimum of ten days in advance of the meeting.

3.7. "Voting" By Mail. Determined by the Officers/Board of Directors the annual election of officers by the voting members of the corporation shall take place as follows:

(a) Nominations in writing to the Recording Secretary will be accepted prior to the annual meeting to be included on the official ballot, once the candidate accepts nomination, the candidate will be posted to the website. Write-in candidates are permitted if the write-in candidate meets the election qualifications. In order to be elected to any office, or to serve as a member of the Officers/Board of Directors, an individual shall be a member in good standing. Any officer or director must be an adult member age 21 or older as of January 1 of the calendar year.

(b) Ballots will be printed and will be posted on the website and emailed to members, as available. Ballot cards are given to all members present for the election. Once elections have been completed by those members, completed election ballots and those ballots received by proxy will be counted. To be valid a proxy vote must (a) be signed and dated by the member, (b) designate the date of the meeting at which the proxy is to be exercised, (c) designate the issue, person or persons upon which the proxy vote is to be cast and how the vote(s) are to be cast, and (d) proxy ballots must be received by the MRSC Recording Secretary, prior to the meeting start time. All ballots will remain sealed until the

annual meeting of the general membership. A committee of three people not on the ballot will be appointed by the Officers/Board of Directors at the annual meeting to receive, verify, and count the ballots. Ballot count results will be made available to the general membership upon request.

3.8. Conduct. A Member in good standing is an individual who has paid their membership dues, is current on financial obligations to the club and is compliant with current policies and bylaws as set forth by the Corporation.

3.9. Termination of Membership. The membership of each member of the Corporation will terminate upon the member's death, resignation, expulsion or failure to pay dues. Unless otherwise determined by the Officers/Board of Directors, each member's membership will terminate effective December 31st of current calendar year. Membership will be reinstated upon payment of annual dues. Members terminated as a result of expulsion may not renew their membership in the Corporation without obtaining the affirmative vote of at least two thirds of all the directors.

3.10. Suspension and Expulsion: Any member may be suspended or expelled from membership with cause upon the affirmative note of at least two-thirds of all directors. Members have the right to request a review of the action taken against them. If, in the discretion of the Board as indicated by such vote, such suspension or expulsion would be in the best interests of the Corporation.

#### **ARTICLE 4** **BOARD OF DIRECTORS/OFFICERS**

4.1. Power. Subject to any limitations of the Missouri Nonprofit Corporation Act or these By-Laws, all corporate powers shall be exercised by, or under the authority of, and the business and affairs of the Corporation shall be controlled by the Officers/Board of Directors who shall have the following:

- (a) The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the club and will be empowered to make decisions which must be made between general meetings. Decisions affecting the entire membership must be presented to the general membership at the next general meeting. Said Board of Directors shall handle all protests, disputes, complaints, and criticism that do not fall under another individual board member's authority, and there shall be no appeal on the findings of the Board of Directors.

(b) Actively ensure that all shows are run successfully. In the event that during a show any volunteer positions that are not filled, it will be the Officer/Board of Directors responsibility or their designee to fill those positions. Failure to actively participate may result in action by the Board.

(c) All Officers/Board of Directors must be members in good standing, a minimum age of 21 as of January 1 and are expected to attend and participate in 75% of general membership and Board meetings. Failure to actively participate may result in action by the Board. In addition, all Officers and Board of Directors or their designees will assist the show committee on the night before and/or day of the show as needed.

(d) Board of Directors/Officers meeting shall be called by the President or the Vice President. Meeting will require as a quorum minimum of 50% physically in attendance by the current Officers/Board of Directors. All issues not agreed upon by 100% of members physically in attendance will require a motion by the floor in order to be accepted as a ruling. A second motion will be required to bring the issue to vote. All motions will be discussed and a vote will be taken. A simple majority will carry the vote. All motions passed will be final for the duration of the calendar year unless special circumstances that would be detrimental and/or have negative consequences to the club appearance.

4.2. Number of Board of Directors/Officers: The Board of Directors will consist of no more than a minimum of 5 members and a maximum of 9, in addition to the elected officers (totaling an odd number).

4.3. Election of Board of Directors/Officers: All Board of Directors/Officers will be elected by the voting members of the Corporation as set forth in Article 3.

4.4. Term of Office: In an effort to perpetuate continuity and consistency, Officers and Board Members will serve a two year term. One half of the Board of Directors/Officers to be elected or automatically reelected every year with the term of office being two years thus resulting in staggering terms. The offices of President, Horse Show Secretary and Treasurer will be limited to two terms for a total of four consecutive years, he/she may run for the same office after a minimum of one term (two years) has passed. In the event an officer of President, Horse Show Secretary and Treasurer has served two terms for a total of four years and there are no nominees for that position the current officer may be reappointed by the sitting board. All other offices may be held by the same person for unlimited terms.

4.5. Vacancies: A vacancy in the office of the President shall be automatically filled by the Vice President. Any other vacancy of officers or board members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for the unexpired term and those appointed shall serve until the election and acceptance of their duly qualified successors. In the event those positions cannot be filled, the Board/Officers will continue to function until the next annual election.

4.6. President: The President shall preside at all general membership meetings of the organization. It is his/her duty to keep order of business, assign the floor, receive motions, and keep the pending question clearly before the assembly at all times. The President's duties require prompt, impartial decisions. The President shall bring all questions to the Board of Directors for decision and approval. The President will enforce all the laws of the organization applicable to members, appoint all committees approved by the floor, and perform other duties as required.

4.7. Vice President: In the absence of the President, the Vice President will perform the same duties as the President. The Vice President shall assist in maintaining order if the President is unable to fulfill duties, submits resignation and/or upon removal shall become President and serve as such until after the next regular election. The Vice President shall further be responsible for all duties assigned to him/her by the organization.

This position can report to either the Vice President or a Board Member:

The Horse Show Chairman shall be responsible for supervision of

- Registration desk responsibilities; including recording entries and collecting entry fees at every horse show, making sure copies of show bills and registration forms are available.
- At close of show, Horse Show Chairperson in conjunction with Treasurer will pay all show personnel (gate, ribbon/award, stall desk, judge, ring master, shavings, etc) either by check or cash based upon costs allocated by current year budget.
- After all payments for horse show personnel is made both Horse Show Chairman and Treasurer will count cash and replace monies kept via cash box and then all remaining cash will be turned over to Treasurer. Receipt of cash will be made and signed by both Horse Show Manager and Treasurer. All checks and entry forms will then be turned over to Treasurer at end of show or within 3 days post show if unable to close all entries and adjudicating show costs and deposits.
- Stall Chart/Accept and record all pre-registration forms

Specific procedures for this position to be documented and presented to board for approval before the first horse show. This position will be supported by Horse Show Software for Windows.

4.8. Recording Secretary: The Recording Secretary shall be responsible for:

- Keeping and distributing the minutes of all meetings, including motions passed and reports made or submitted as well as resolutions introduced.
- Conduct correspondence for and in the name of the organization.
- Record membership and nomination applications.
- Maintaining the database of approved memberships and nominations.
- Updating or creation of forms needed. i.e. Show Bills, Registration forms, membership forms, nomination forms, bylaws, nomination forms, official ballot, and membership surveys.
- Shall be responsible for supervision of:

- Printing and distribution of forms as needed.
- He/She may seek additional help from a committee for assistance with these tasks.

This position is currently supported by Excel, Word, and Publisher.

4.9. Horse Show Secretary: Horse Show Secretary shall be responsible for:

- Keeping an accurate count of the points awarded. Point standings should be reviewed before posting by Horse Show Chair and designated board member or officer. If dispute arises, all points must be reviewed by the Horse Show Secretary and further checked by the Board of Directors.
- Hiring of Judges, Contracts, Judge Cards, Pattern Selections prior to their contracted show.
- Obtaining Arenas for all the shows

Shall be responsible for supervision of:

- Pattern Book creation and distribution.
- Collect and record all necessary horse documents. i.e. Coggins and Health Certificates for Out of State Horses.
- Providing Show Bills and Registration Forms one month in advance.

He/She may seek additional help from a committee for assistance with these tasks.

This position is currently supported by Word, Excel and Publisher.

4.10 Awards Secretary: Awards Secretary shall be responsible for:

- Ordering and availability of awards (ribbons, trophies, etc) for each show.
- Select and manage year-end awards and creation of forms needed for recipient to order.
- Inventory of awards on hand.

Shall be responsible for supervision of:

- Special themes or event
- Show awards

He/She may seek additional help from a committee for assistance with these tasks.

This position is currently supported by Excel, Word and Publisher

4.11. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be responsible for:

- Receive funds from all sources of the organization.
- Funds Received from Horse Shows: Treasurer shall work with Horse Show Chairman to make disbursements of all show help personnel by current year budget and also payment of all other horse show expenses. All cash received during the show will be signed off by Horse Show Manager. When deposited in bank of sound financial standing in the name of the organization within 10 business days, a separate deposit record will be made for all cash receipts not only for shows but also for membership/nominations or any other cash receipts. Responsible for adjudication of show expenses by using Registration forms or Horse show software. All horse show expenses/disbursements shall be provided to



Officers/Board Members at the next board meeting following the horse show.

- Give his/her receipt as evidence of the receipt thereof.
  - Financial statements, copies of bank statements and receipts along with all deposits/disbursements for all other activities from the last board meeting until the current board meeting shall be presented at each board meeting for review.
  - Present a Profit & Loss Statement at the General Membership meetings. More detailed financial information can be requested in writing to the board by a member in good standing.
  - Keep a ledger of disbursements and receipts and make all disbursements and payments using an accounting package such as QuickBooks, Quicken, etc.
  - Receive all receipts/disbursements for annual banquet.
  - Balance statement to be presented at the end of fiscal year.
  - Provide Club CPA with any appropriate documentation required and to schedule annual review of state and federal required filings.
- He/She may seek additional help from a committee for assistance with these tasks.

This position is currently supported by Quick Books.

Annual audit performed by accounting firm of Brown Smith Wallace.

4.12. Public Relations: Public Relations shall be responsible for:

- Promoting the club's activities through news media and all other venues including the website and Face Book.
- Items must be up to date and presented in ample time to facilitate publication.
- Creation and updating of the MRSC Show Book.

Shall be responsible for supervision of:

- Creation of fliers needed for all MRSC events.
- Promotion of horse shows by distribution of show bills and fliers.
- Producing and distributing (at the expense of the club) a regular newsletter.

He/She may seek additional help from a committee for assistance with these tasks.

This position is currently supported by Word Press, Publisher and Word.

4.13. Sergeant at Arms: The Sergeant at Arms shall be responsible for all properties and equipment of the organization not delegated to any other officer or member. He/she shall also remove any member for improper behavior when requested to do so by the Board of Directors. At meetings the Sergeant at Arms is the authority; at horse shows the Board of Directors in attendance are the authority. If the Sergeant of Arms is absent the President may appoint a temporary at the meeting.

4.14. Annual Transition: To maintain continuity, officers whose terms have expired shall assure the orderly transition of authority to their successors before being relieved of their responsibilities.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES**

5.1. Actions Jeopardizing Tax Status. This Corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from federal income taxes under 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue law.

5.2. Lobbying and Political Activities. The Corporation may devote a substantial part of its activities for lobbying purposes (including the publishing or distribution of statements) or otherwise attempting to influence legislation. However, the Corporation may participate or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political or judicial campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office only to an insubstantial degree.

5.3. Private Inurement. No part of the net income or net assets of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its directors, officers, or members. Specifically, the club revenue generated from nonmembers shall not be used to the personal advantage of the members (such as reduced dues, improved facilities, and the like). However, the Corporation is authorized to pay reasonable compensation to employees for services actually rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of its tax exempt purposes.

5.4. Non-Discrimination. In the conduct of all aspects of its activities, the Corporation shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, national origin or gender.

5.5. Conflicts of Interest. A conflict of interest occurs when a person under a duty to promote the interests of the Corporation (a "fiduciary") is in a position to promote a competing interest instead. Fiduciaries include all Corporation employees, directors or officers, and members of any Corporation committee. Undisclosed or unresolved conflicts of interest are a breach of the duty to act in the best interests of the Corporation and work to the detriment of the Corporation.

5.6. Typical Conflict Situations. Conflicts of interest are likely to arise whenever: a) a fiduciary has a personal interest in a vendor of goods or services to the Corporation; or b) Corporation employees are loaned to other organizations, or the employees of another organization are loaned to this Corporation.

5.7. Discharging Conflicts of Interest. All conflicts of interest must be disclosed to the Board of Directors/Officers. After disclosure is made, the individual with a conflicting interest must not participate in judging the merits of that interest. That is, such individual must abstain from voting on, or recommending a course of action with respect to, the situation giving rise to the conflict. When these are done, the conflict of interest has been properly discharged.

5.8. Preventing Conflict Situations. The Corporation, through the Board of Directors/Officers, shall encourage all fiduciaries to prevent conflicts of interest where possible.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS**

6.1. Property of the Corporation. The title to all property of the Corporation, both real and personal, shall be vested in the Corporation.

6.2. Disposition Upon Dissolution. Upon the dissolution or winding up of the Corporation, or in the event it shall cease to engage in carrying out the purposes and goals set forth in these Bylaws, all of the business, properties, assets and income of the Corporation remaining after payment, or provisions for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this Corporation, shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, association, or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for tax exempt purposes which are reasonably related to the purposes and goals of this Corporation, as may be determined by the Board of Directors of this Corporation in its sole discretion, and which has established its tax exempt status under 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

6.3. Liability of Directors and Officers. No director or officer of the Corporation shall be personally liable to its creditors for any indebtedness or liability and any and all creditors shall look only to the Corporation's assets for payment.

6.4. Liability of Members. No member of the Corporation shall be personally liable to its creditors or for any indebtedness or liability and any and all creditors shall look only to the Corporation's assets for payment.

6.5. Property Interests Upon Termination of Membership. Members have no interest in the property, assets, or privileges of the Corporation. Cessation of membership shall operate as a release and assignment to the Corporation of all rights, title and interest of any member, but shall not affect any indebtedness of the Corporation to such member.

6.6. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Corporation shall be from each January 1 to December 31.

6.7. End of Year. A balance determined by the Board of Directors will be held in the treasury at the end of each fiscal year to be used for operating expenses in the following show year. The Corporation will comply with State and IRS regulations and required filings to maintain 501(c)(7) tax exempt status.

## **ARTICLE 7 COMMITTEES**

7.1. Committees. Additional committees will be chaired by the Board of Directors/Officers for MRSC duties as necessary.

## **ARTICLE 8 INDEMNIFICATION**

8.1. Indemnification. Each member of the Board of Directors/Officers and Committee person of the Corporation shall be indemnified by the Corporation 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 his/her being or having been a member of the Board of Directors/Officers or Committee person of the Corporation, except in relation to matters which shall have been occasioned by the willful misconduct or dishonesty of such an Board of Director/Officer or Committee person. The foregoing indemnification shall cover amounts paid in settlement of any such action, suit, proceeding when such settlement appears to be of the interest of the Corporation, the foregoing shall be in addition to any other rights to which such members of the Board of Directors/Officers or Committee person may be entitled as a matter of law.

8.2. Impact of Tax Exempt Status. The rights to indemnification set forth in this Article are expressly conditioned upon such rights not violating the Corporation's status as a tax exempt organization described in 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

## **ARTICLE 9 BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS**

9.1. Bylaw Amendments. By-Laws and show regulations shall be reviewed annually by the Board of Directors and all changes will be presented at the annual meeting of the general membership for ratification.

Any member in good standing can submit a request for a by-law change from January 1<sup>st</sup> through the last show of the current calendar year. A hard copy of the bylaws will be available at the shows for member review and added to the MRSC website. By-Laws can be amended by the Board of Directors with ratification by vote of a simple majority of the general membership.

## **ARTICLE 10** **HORSE SHOWS**

10.1. Show Season. January 1st shall start the show season and December 31st shall close the show season with regard to points unless special circumstances allow otherwise. Point shows will be designated as such before the show season begins.

10.2. Show Bills. All show bills will be approved 60 days prior to the show season by the Board of Directors. Classes may be dropped due to lack of participation. General rules shall be stated on the show bill. Entry fees are listed on the show bill.

10.3. Entry Forms. One entry sheet per horse and rider combination must be filled out with the following stated:

- All entry forms must be filled in legibly and signed.
- Age of minor exhibitor should also be shown on the entry form as entered on the membership application. Birth certificate copy may be needed in case of discrepancy. Age at January 1st of the current calendar year determines the age of the exhibitor for the entire show season. Parent's or guardian's signature is required for all minor exhibitors.
- Per Missouri State Law, proof of negative Coggins for all horses is required. Health certificates for out of state horses are required and may be checked at the registration table.
- All pre registrations and/or stall only reservations must have payment of cash or an open check at the registration desk 1 hour prior to show start time or all entries will be scratched until payment is received. All non pre registrations will need to be accompanied by payment or "open check" at the time of entry.

10.4. Judges. Obtaining the judges for all shows is the responsibility of the Show Secretary. It is preferred that the same judge not be used for more than one point show per season. However, if it would result in a show having to be cancelled, or if it would cause a financial hardship on the club to obtain a different judge, the show secretary may double-book a judge that season with board approval.

No MRSC member or delegate will be allowed to judge MRSC point shows. Due to potential conflict of interest, no horse or exhibitor may show to a judge if that judge or member of his immediate family have owned, trained or acted as an agent for or have provided lessons or any other service in which they have received remuneration for any reason for 90 days prior to the date of show.

10.5. Ringmaster. Ringmasters should be knowledgeable of the bylaws and concerned with safety inside the arena at all times. Conversation with the judge should be minimized.

10.6. Exhibitors. Exhibitors must conform to rules of conduct and dress to ensure show standards are met. Protective helmets are strongly encouraged for all riders.

Exhibitors may be subject to disqualification for infringing on the following rules:

- (a) Failure by exhibitor to wear correct number(s) in a visible manner
- (b) In all classes it is mandatory to wear proper attire. For English, this includes jacket, shirt with collar, helmet, and boots. In extreme weather conditions jackets may be deemed optional at the judges' discretion however long sleeve shirt is required. For Western, hat/helmet, long sleeve shirt with collar and boots are required, chaps are optional. The helmet/hat must be on the rider's head when the exhibitor enters the arena. Spurs of the rowelled type are not allowed in English classes but are optional for all other riding classes.
- (c) In any class the judge shall have the authority to disqualify or remove any exhibitor with illegal equipment per applicable breed association rules
- (d) Two handing with a shank bit is not allowed in western classes.
- (e) Extreme speed or disruption of class shall be penalized and the exhibitor excused from class at the judge's discretion.
- (f) Absolutely no excessive spurring, striking, or abusing of any horse will be allowed either in the arena or on the show grounds.
- (g) Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated.
- (h) One horse per entrant allowed per class with the exception of trail and other events where no rail work is required in these classes. It will be instructed to the judge there will be no rail work for equitation and horsemanship. To satisfy the working order draw, a total of three (3) horses will be inserted between a rider with two goes. In the event the rider is the only one in the class a two minute gate call for tack change will be called before second go. If the rider is not ready by the end of the allotted time, they will not be allowed to show the second horse. It will also be instructed to the judge that when showmanship pattern is completed, exhibitor is finished showing to allow multiple horses per entrant.
- (i) No horse may be shown by more than one exhibitor per class.
- (j) No stallions are allowed at MRSC shows.
- (k) Horses are to be of Stock type.

### 10.7. Rider Description.

*Lead Line* – Riders age 7 & under as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of current year. Riders may cross enter into Halter, the Specialty Class if applicable and Walk Division. Entry into the Lead Line, Halter and Walk will not affect Beginner Eligibility.

*Walk* – Riders of any age. Entry into the Walk class and Halter will not affect Beginner Eligibility if rider does not cross enter into other divisions. Riders are eligible to cross enter into Beginner Division (if rider meets Beginner eligibility requirements), Youth 13 & Under Walk Trot Division, Youth 14 & Over/Adult Walk Trot Division, Youth 18 & Under Division and Adult Division.

*Halter Only* – Handler of any age. Handlers may not cross enter into any other class except Mare or Gelding Halter. Entry into Halter Only will not affect Beginner Eligibility.

*TH Rider* – Riders of any age who participate in TREEhouse of Greater St. Louis program. Riders may only ride horses provided by TREEhouse of Greater St. Louis. Riders are only eligible to ride in TREEhouse classes.

*Youth 13 & Under Walk Trot* – Riders age 13 & under as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of current year. Cross entry into Youth 18 & Under Division and Beginner Division (if rider meets Beginner eligibility requirements) will be allowed.

*Youth 14 & Over/Adult Walk Trot* – Riders age 14 & over as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of current year through Adult. Cross entry into Youth 18 & Under Division, Adult Division and Beginner Division (if rider meets Beginner eligibility requirements) will be allowed. Excludes crossing into Leadline and Walk.

*Youth* – Riders age 18 & under as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of current year. Cross entry into Youth 14 & Over/Adult Walk Trot Division and Beginner Division (if rider meets Beginner eligibility requirements) will be allowed. Excludes crossing into Leadline and Walk.

*Adult* - Riders age 19 & over as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of current year. Cross entry into Youth 14 & Over/Adult Walk Trot Division and Beginner Division (if rider meets Beginner eligibility requirements) will be allowed. Excludes crossing into Leadline and Walk.

*Beginner* – Rider of any age who's showing experience is limited to an accumulative lifetime 20 MRSC, and/ or breed, or combination of both, shows as of January 1 of the current year. Once the Year End Beginner High Point or Reserve High Point has been won, rider is no longer eligible to ride in the Beginner Division. Cross entry into age appropriate divisions – 13 & Under Walk Trot Division, 14 & Over/Adult Walk Trot Division, or Adult Division will be

allowed. Completed Beginner Affidavit to be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors. Special consideration will be given to those with disabilities. Excludes crossing into Leadline and Walk.

*Open* – Any age rider. Open riders may enter all open classes except Open 13 & Under Western Pleasure, unless age appropriate. Walk riders excluded from open classes.

*Select* – Eligibility based upon age 50 and over.

10.8. Protests. Judges decisions are final. All protests will be handled by the Horse Show Committee. Protests must be made in writing the day of the show and must be accompanied by a \$25 fee. The fee will only be refunded if the Horse Show Committee approves the protest.

10.9. Release of Authorization. Attendance at a MRSC event, in whatever capacity, shall constitute authorization for MRSC, its agents or designees to photograph, videotape, televise or otherwise record any person or animal on the premises of an MRSC approved event. Attendance shall further constitute authorization for the use of such person or animal's name or performance record.

## **ARTICLE 11**

### **CLASS RULES/POINT CLASSES**

#### 11.1. General Class Rules.

(a) All classes will be placed, including Lead Line and Walk. Additionally, entrants in pattern classes in the Walk, 13 & Under, and Beginner Divisions shall not be disqualified but rather scored fully on the appropriate score sheet in an effort to provide feedback to these developing riders.

(b) All horses should be shown as legally allowed per appropriate breed standards.

(c) Only disciplines on the current year MRSC show bill are allowed to be practiced during an MRSC event, therefore all other disciplines not offered are not allowed to be practiced during an MRSC event due to insurance coverages.



## 11.2. General Class Rules by Division.

### **Halter**

Mare Halter – any age

Gelding Halter – any age

- Grand and Reserve Halter – any age. Top 2 horses from the Mare Halter and Gelding Halter classes are automatically entered into this class. Does not accumulate for awards. See Article IX Section 4 Awards.

Halter class is defined as a class where horse is judged based upon its conformation, correctness, and soundness. Horse to be shown in appropriate head gear as allowed per breed standards. Procedure of class will be determined by judge. Horses may be shown by any age exhibitor.

### **Showmanship**

- Beginner Showmanship
- Youth Showmanship 13 & Under
- Youth Showmanship 18 & Under
- Youth 14 & Over/Adult Walk Trot
- Adult Showmanship 19 & Over

The ideal showmanship performance consists of a poised, confident, neatly attired exhibitor leading a wellgroomed and conditioned horse that quickly and efficiently performs the requested pattern with promptness, smoothness, and precision. The showmanship class is not another halter class and should not be judged as such.

### **TREEhouse of Greater St. Louis Walk/Trot English/Western Assisted with Handler**

- The rider or their family does not have to own the horse but must be supplied by TREEhouse of Greater St. Louis.
- Horses with a slight disability or lameness may be used at the discretion of the judge.
- Handler – One or two handlers are required in the ring per entry to facilitate the safety of the rider. The handler must be 16 years of age or older. A halter must be on the horse either over or under the bridle for use by the handler if needed. The handler must have a suitable lead line in hand in case of need.

### **TREEhouse of Greater St. Louis Walk/Trot English/Western Assisted With Adaptive Equipment**

- The rider or their family does not have to own the horse but must be supplied by TREEhouse of Greater St. Louis.
- If necessary, one or two handlers per entry may be used to facilitate the safety of the rider. The handler must be 16 years of age or older.
- Equipment should conform to the needs of the rider and be suitable for the horse.

- Special adaptive equipment may be used where appropriate. Special adaptive equipment to be determined by TREEhouse of Greater St. Louis.
- Horses with a slight disability or lameness may be used at the discretion of the judge.

### **TREEhouse of Greater St. Louis Walk/Trot English/Western With Out Assistance**

- The rider or their family does not have to own the horse but must be supplied by TREEhouse of Greater St. Louis.
- Horses with a slight disability or lameness may be used at the discretion of the judge.
- If determined necessary by TREEhouse of Greater St. Louis, handlers shall stand quietly as a group in a designated area of the ring.

### **Hunter Under Saddle Walk Trot**

- Beginner Hunter Under Saddle Walk Trot
- Youth Hunter Under Saddle Walk Trot 13 & Under
- Youth Hunter Under Saddle Walk Trot 18 & under
- Youth 14 & Over/Adult Walk Trot Hunter Under Saddle
- Adult Hunter Under Saddle Walk Trot 19 & Over
- Open Hunter Under Saddle Walk Trot

To be shown in Hunt Seat attire and tack. To be shown only at a walk and trot in both directions. It is the judge's option to require an exhibitor to extend gait. Horses may be required to back.

### **Hunter Under Saddle**

- Beginner Hunter Under Saddle
- Youth Hunter Under Saddle 18 & Under
- Adult Hunter Under Saddle 19 & Over
- Open Hunter Under Saddle

To be shown in Hunt Seat attire and tack. To be shown at a walk, trot, and canter in both directions. It is the judge's option to require an exhibitor to extend gait. Horses may be required to back.

### **Hunt Seat Equitation**

- Beginner Walk Trot Hunt Seat Equitation
- Youth Walk Trot Hunt Seat Equitation 13 & Under
- Youth Hunt Seat Equitation 18 & Under
- Youth 14 & Over/Adult Walk Trot Hunt Seat Equitation
- Adult Hunt Seat Equitation 19 & Over
- Open Walk Trot Hunt Seat Equitation

*Hunt seat equitation is an evaluation based on the ability of a rider to perform various maneuvers in harmony with his/her horse. The communication between horse and rider through subtle cues and aids should not be obvious. Equitation is judged on the rider and his/her effect on the horse.*

### **Lead Line**

- Lead Line – Hunt Seat or Western – 7 & Under

Exhibitor must be seven years and under. Child must be able to show horse at walk only while being led in both directions. Exhibitor may be asked to back. Horse exhibitor and leader must be in proper attire (western or Hunt Seat). Handler must be at least 16 years of age or older.

### **Walk, Walk Equitation/Horsemanship, Walk Showmanship, – Any age**

Horse to be shown at the walk only in both directions. Exhibitor may be asked to back. Horse and exhibitor must be in proper attire (Hunt Seat or Western).

### **Specialty Class**

To be determined by the show committee. Class rules to be posted prior to the show.

### **Western Walk Trot**

- Beginner Western Walk Trot
- Youth Western Walk Trot 13 & Under
- Youth Western Walk Trot 18 & Under
- Youth 14 & Over/Adult Western Walk Trot
- Adult Western Walk Trot 19 & Over
- Select Western Walk Trot 50 & Over
- Jr. Horse Open Western Walk Trot
- Sr. Horse Open Western Walk Trot

To be shown in western attire and tack. To be shown at a walk and jog in both directions. It is the judge's option to require an exhibitor to extend gait. Horse may be required to back.

*Junior Horse* – Horse 5 years or under. Proof of age may be required at registration. Junior horses competing in junior western pleasure, western horsemanship, and trail that are shown with a hackamore or snaffle bit may be ridden with two hands on the reins.

*Senior Horse* – Horse 6 years or older.

## **Western Pleasure**

- Beginner Western Pleasure
- Open 13 & Under Western Pleasure
- Youth Western Pleasure 18 & under
- Adult Western Pleasure 19 & Over
- Jr. Horse Western Pleasure
- Sr. Horse Western Pleasure
- Open Western Pleasure

To be shown in western attire and tack. To be shown at a walk, jog, and lope, in both directions. It is the judge's option to require an exhibitor to extend gait. Horses may be required to back.

*Junior Horse* – Horse 5 years or under. Proof of age may be required at registration. Junior horses competing in junior western pleasure, western horsemanship, and trail that are shown with a hackamore or snaffle bit may be ridden with two hands on the reins.

*Senior Horse* – Horse 6 years or older.

## **Horsemanship**

- Beginner Walk Trot Horsemanship
- Youth Walk Trot Horsemanship 13 & Under
- Youth Horsemanship 18 & Under
- Youth 14 & Over/Adult Walk Trot Horsemanship
- Adult Horsemanship 19 & Over
- Open Walk Trot Horsemanship

The western horsemanship class is designed to evaluate the rider's ability to execute, in concert with their horse, a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence, and maintaining a balanced, functional and fundamentally correct body position. The ideal horsemanship pattern is extremely precise with the rider and horse working in complete unison, executing each maneuver with subtle aids and cues.

## **Trail**

- Beginner Walk Trot Trail
- Youth Walk Trot Trail 13 & Under
- Youth Trail 18 & Under
- Youth 14 & Over/Adult Walk Trot Trail
- Adult Trail 19 & Over
- Open Trail
- Open Walk Trot Trail

Horse to be judged on performance and ease of handling. Class to have a minimum of 6 obstacles per course. Pattern will be posted the day of the show. Horse and rider are allowed three attempts per obstacle at the judge's discretion.

### **Ranch Riding**

- Youth Ranch Riding 18 & Under
- Adult Ranch Riding 19 & Over

The purpose of the ranch riding class is to measure the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from performing one ranch task to another. The horse should reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working ranch horse riding outside the confines of an arena.

The horse should be well-trained, relaxed, quiet, soft and cadenced at all gaits. The ideal ranch horse will travel with forward movement and demonstrate an obvious lengthening of stride at extended gaits. The horse can be ridden with light contact or on a relatively loose rein without requiring undue restraint, but not shown on a full drape of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the ranch riding horse to make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner, as well as the quality of the movement are of primary considerations. The ideal ranch riding horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver. Standard ranch horse patterns to be used with a minimum of 3 maneuvers. For the purposes of MRSC, tack, attire and grooming not to be considered in judging.

**Ranch Conformation:** The purpose of ranch conformation is to preserve American Quarter Horse type selecting well-mannered individuals in the order of their resemblance to the breed ideal and that are the most positive combination of balance, structural correctness, and movement with appropriate breed and sex characteristics and adequate muscling. The ideal VRH Ranch conformation horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail.

**Ranch Reining:** The ranch reining class measures the ability of the ranch horse to perform basic handling maneuvers with a natural head carriage in a forward looking manner. The ideal VRH ranch reining horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver. Patterns may be chosen from any of the ranch reining patterns or approved by the show management and judge.

**Ranch Trail:** The ranch trail class should test the horse's ability to cope with situations encountered while being ridden through a pattern of obstacles generally found during the course of everyday ranch work. The horse/rider team is judged on the correctness, efficiency and pattern accuracy with which the obstacles are negotiated and the attitude and mannerisms exhibited by the horse. Judging emphasis is on identifying the well broke, responsive and well mannered horse which can correctly navigate and negotiate the course. The ideal VRH ranch trail horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver.

## **ARTICLE 12**

### **YEAR END AWARDS**

12.1. Annual Awards Banquet. This is for the purpose of giving the Year End Awards for the show season. It should be held after the conclusion of the show season.

#### 12.2. Point System.

(a) All classes will be placed 1-6. Points must be given for any class listed as approved point class, with the exception of the specialty/fun class, and that class appears on a MRSC approved show bill which is shown in strict accordance with the rules of the club. Points are awarded as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place = 6 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place = 5 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> place = 4 points, 5<sup>th</sup> place = 2 points, 6<sup>th</sup> place = 1 point, no place = 0 points Exception: there will be no more points awarded than number of horses in the class. For example: If there are three horses in the class, the 1st place horse will receive 3 points, the 2nd place horse will receive 2 points, and the 3rd place horse will receive 1 point.

(b) Point accumulation is based on single horse/rider combination. If participant is disqualified, their entry is still counted in the class total, but no points for that participant will be awarded. If the participant is scratched, their entry will not be counted in the class total. Entry fees will not be refunded in the case of a disqualification.

12.3. Qualifications. In order to participate in the accumulation of points for the MRSC year-end Awards, exhibitors and horse owners must (1) be a member (2) have the proper horse/rider nomination and (3) show nominated horse at least 50% of the shows held within the show year. Points will not accumulate prior to submitting the required membership and nomination per the MRSC bylaws.

12.4. Awards. Amount to be used toward the year-end awards will be determined by the officers and board members as allowed within the yearly budget. Award offerings will be determined prior to the final show of the season and may include cash awards, trophies and/or other merchandise. An Awards Committee, chaired by the Awards Secretary, will determine the available awards. All merchandise/awards should be personalized with MRSC designation when appropriate.

The Awards Committee and the current show season officers will be responsible for the awards presentation and the details pertaining to the year-end awards banquet.

Grand / Reserve Halter and Leadline are not eligible to accumulate points for awards.

## 12. 5. Divisional High Point/Reserve High Point Awards.

(a) Lead Line and Halter Only memberships are not considered a division and therefore will not be eligible for divisional high point awards.

(b) MRSC will award divisional high point awards to the exhibitor earning the highest number of points in each category: Walk, Beginner, Youth 13 & Under, Youth 18 & Under, Youth 14 & Over/Adult and Adult under the following guidelines:

(c) The winner of the high point is determined by adding all points earned in all qualified classes including Halter.

(d) In case a tie occurs, the horse and rider combination who placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the most number of classes will be declared the winner. If unable to break tie, highest number of placing until tie is broken.

(e) Categories and eligible classes are as follows:

### **Beginner**

- Halter
- Showmanship – Beginner
- Hunter Under Saddle Walk Trot - Beginner
- Hunter Under Saddle – Beginner
- Hunt Seat Equitation – Beginner
- Western Walk Trot - Beginner
- Western Pleasure – Beginner
- Horsemanship - Beginner
- Trail – Beginner

### **WALK**

- Halter
- Walk - Walk
- Showmanship - Walk
- Equitation/Horsemanship - Walk

### **Youth Walk Trot (13 & Under)**

- Halter
- Showmanship – 13 & Under
- Hunter Under Saddle Walk Trot – 13 & Under
- Hunt Seat Equitation Walk Trot – 13 & Under
- Western Walk Trot – 13 & Under
- Horsemanship Walk Trot – 13 & Under
- Trail Walk Trot – 13 & Under

### **Youth (18 & Under)**

- Halter
- Showmanship – 18 & Under
- Hunter Under Saddle Walk Trot – 18 & Under
- Hunter Under Saddle – 18 & Under
- Hunt Seat Equitation – 18 & Under
- Western Walk Trot – 18 & Under
- Western Pleasure – 18 & Under
- Horsemanship – 18 & Under
- Trail – 18 & Under

### **Youth 14 & Over/Adult Walk Trot**

- Halter
- Showmanship – Youth 14 & Over/Adult
- Hunter Under Saddle Walk Trot – Youth 14 & Over/Adult
- Hunt Seat Equitation Walk Trot – Youth 14 & Over/Adult
- Western Walk Trot – Youth 14 & Over/Adult
- Horsemanship Walk Trot – Youth 14 & Over/Adult
- Trail– Youth 14 & Over/Adult

### **Adult (19 & Over)**

- Halter
- Showmanship – Adult
- Hunter Under Saddle Walk Trot - Adult
- Hunter Under Saddle – Adult
- Hunt Seat Equitation – Adult
- Western Walk Trot – Adult
- Western Pleasure – Adult
- Horsemanship – Adult
- Trail – Adult

**12.6 Open Classes.** The following classes are open classes and do not accumulate toward Divisional High Point/Reserve High Point Awards but are eligible for Class Awards.

- Open Walk Trot Hunter Under Saddle (HUS)
- Open HUS
- Open Walk Trot HUS Equitation
- Select Open Western Walk Trot 50 & Over
- Jr Horse Open Western Walk Trot



- Sr Horse Open Western Walk Trot
- Open Western Pleasure
- Open 13 & Under Western Pleasure
- Jr Horse Open Western Pleasure
- Sr Horse Open Western Pleasure
- Open Western Walk Trot Horsemanship
- Open Walk Trot Trail
- Open Trail

12.7. Show Bill. A copy of the current MRSC show season approved show bill will be considered as a listing of the classes approved for the year-end award and will be considered an attachment to the bylaws. All information printed on the show bill, including any class rules and regulations not covered in these bylaws is final.

12.8. Attachments. All information printed on the attachments, including any class rules, regulations, membership, nomination and waivers not covered in these bylaws are final.

### **ARTICLE 13** **CONSTRUCTION AND TERMS**

If there is any conflict between the provisions of these By-Laws and the Articles of Incorporation of this corporation, the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation shall govern. Should any of the provisions or portions of these By-Laws be held unenforceable or invalid for any reason, the remaining provisions and portions of these By-Laws shall be unaffected by such holding.

All references in these By-Laws to a section or sections of the Internal Revenue Code shall be to such section or sections of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time, or to corresponding provisions of any future federal tax code.

**The foregoing Amended By-Laws of the were duly adopted as the By-Laws of the Mid Rivers Saddle Club at the regular meeting of the general membership held on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 .**

**Date:** 12/03/2018

*Peggy Goeke*  
**President, Mid Rivers Saddle Club**