

Mississippi Amateur Quarter Horse Association

By-Laws

PROPOSED

ARTICLE I

Name, Objects and Location

Section 1. The name of this association shall be: Mississippi Amateur Quarter Horse Association, Inc.(Association) and shall at all times be operated and conducted as a non-profit association in accordance with the laws of the state of Mississippi and the rules and regulations of the Mississippi Quarter Horse Association, Inc.

Section 2. Objects: The purpose of this Association shall be to assist and encourage the Amateur owner in breeding, showing and using the American Quarter Horse; and to promote and improve the breed in every way possible.

Section 3. Location: Principal place of business for this Association shall be Jackson, Mississippi, unless changed by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II

Members, Dues and Privileges

Section 1. Members of the Association shall be admitted, retained, and expelled in accordance with such rules and regulations as adopted by the membership.

Section 2. In all matters governed by the vote of the members, each member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote. A member is in good standing when they meet the eligibility requirements and appropriate dues are paid in full.

Section 3. Whenever in these By-Laws the term member or members is used, it shall mean a member or members in good standing with the right to vote.

Section 4. All members in good standing of the Association who are residents of the state of Mississippi are eligible to serve as officer or director.

Section 5. There shall be three (3) types of membership: Regular Member, Non-resident Member and Life Member.

Section 6. For each regular, or non-resident membership, an annual fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) shall be paid. This fee shall be due and payable at the time membership is requested and annually thereafter. Membership fees are due November 1 of each year and expire the following October 31.

A fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) is required for life membership, but no annual fees are required.

Memberships are not transferable.

Section 7. Each member of the Association shall be a member of MQHA and have a current and valid Amateur card issued by the American Quarter Horse Association. If a member's AQHA Amateur card is pulled or becomes invalid for disciplinary reasons, the membership is hereby terminated and eligibility for year-end awards is voided. If a member's Amateur Card is given up voluntarily, membership is terminated, however, eligibility for year-end awards and MAQHA points earned during the current show year remain intact.

Section 8. The status of Regular member shall be given to any member of the Association who is a resident of the state of Mississippi and a member of MQHA. Regular members shall have all voting rights and privileges and will be eligible for year-end awards.

Section 9. The status of Non-resident Member shall be given to any member of the Association who is not a resident of the state of Mississippi but is a member of MQHA. Non-Resident members shall have voting rights but are not eligible to serve on the board of directors in any capacity. Non-resident members shall earn MAQHA points and will be eligible for year-end awards except Overall High Point (All-around) Champion and Reserve Champion

Section 10. The status of Life Member shall be given to any member of the Association who has paid the appropriate Life Membership fee and is a current member of MQHA. Life members shall have all voting rights and privileges and shall be eligible for year-end awards as applicable for resident and non-residents on the state of Mississippi.

ARTICLE III

Membership Meetings

Section 1. The Association shall meet at least annually at a time and place to be set by the Directors and shall not conflict with the business meeting of the MQHA.

Section 2. Special meetings of the members may be held at such time and place as may be designated in the notice, whenever called in writing by the direction of the President or by a majority of the Board of Directors, or by notice signed by not less than twenty (20) percent of the members then in good standing. Notice of each special meeting shall indicate briefly the object or objects of the meeting.

Section 3. Notice of special meetings of the members shall be given by mailing, emailing or texting a notice stating the time, place and object of such meeting to each member, not less

than seven (7) days prior to the date of such meeting.

Section 4. At any meeting of the members held in accordance with the foregoing provisions as to notice, the members attending such meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IV

Directors

Section 1. The business and property of the Association shall be managed and controlled by the Board of Directors. Any policy or rule set by the membership at a proper meeting shall be strictly adhered to by the Board of Directors. Any action taken by this Association or by its Board of Directors, other than routine action, must be approved by the Mississippi Quarter Horse Association, Inc.

Section 2. The board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers of the Association, all Past Presidents, the elected Directors from each of the four districts in the state, and Directors-at-Large. All members of the board of Directors shall be members in good standing of the Association.

Section 3. District Directors shall be elected at the regular annual meeting of the Association, as follows: the State shall be divided into four districts, coinciding with the districts as set forth in the MQHA by-laws, Article IV, Section 2, paragraphs 2 and 3. The members residing in each district shall elect a minimum of two (2) Directors and one (1) Alternate from their district. Each district which has a total membership exceeding ten (10) members shall be entitled to additional Directors as noted below, with a maximum of five (5) Directors from any one district. Such determination will depend on the number members in good standing as of December 1, of the previous year. Hence, the number of Directors for 2015 will be based on the number of paid up members as of December 1, 2014.

Section 4. The basis for additional Directors shall be:

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| 11 to 20 members | One (1) additional director |
| 21 to 30 members | Two (2) additional directors |
| Over 30 members | Three (3) additional directors |

Section 5. The number of Directors for each district shall be determined annually by the board and announced at the annual meeting prior to voting. In the event that the number of Directors in any given district declines, then that district will allow the expiring Director's office to remain vacant, unless otherwise agreed to by the members of the affected district attending the election meeting.

Section 6. Such elected district Directors must be members in good standing and reside in the district from which they are elected. Directors shall be elected for a term of three (3) calendar years, or until his or her successor is elected. The alternate director shall serve a term of one (1) year. However, in the first year in which directors are elected, the Directors' terms shall be as follows:

One (1) director for three (3) years

One (1) director for two (2) years

All additional directors for one (1) year

Section 7. The Alternate Director may attend all Board meetings as a non-voting member. He/she may serve as proxy for a director from the same District at any Board meeting, provided the absent Director has notified the President or Secretary of the substitution in advance of the meeting.

Any vacancy resulting from the death or resignation of an elected District Director shall be filled by the Alternate Director.

In the event any duly elected District Director shall fail to attend three (3) consecutive meetings of the Directors without a legitimate excuse approved by the board, then at the third meeting those Directors present shall have the power to elevate the Alternate Director and he or she shall have all the powers, during the unexpired term, of the defaulting Director.

In the event the Alternate Director is elevated to Director status or otherwise vacates his or her position, the Directors of his or her district shall elect a new Alternate director to serve out the unexpired term.

Section 8. All past Presidents of the Association, so long as they shall remain members of the Association in good standing, shall be Directors-at-large with the right to attend meetings, participate in discussions, and vote on all matters brought before the board of Directors.

Section 9. Any member in good standing of the Association that is a duly elected Director of the Mississippi Quarter Horse Association, Inc., shall serve as a Director-at-Large with the right to vote so long as they remain a Director of MQHA and a member in good standing of MAQHA.

Section 10. The Directors shall meet annually at the same time as the regular, annual meeting of the members and monthly thereafter at a time and place determined by the board of directors. The Directors, including the officers, present at regularly scheduled meetings shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V

Officers and Duties

Section 1. Officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and a Reporter. Officers shall be elected by the general membership at the regular annual meeting for a term of one year, or until their successors are elected. All officers shall be members in good standing and shall be legal residents of the state of Mississippi.

Section 2. President: The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the board of Directors. He or she shall see that the by-Laws, rules and regulations of the Association are enforced, and shall perform all other duties that may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors. He or she shall be

ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.

The President shall appoint a Liaison Officer to the Board of Directors of the MQHA. The responsibility of this officer is to attend all MQHA Board meetings, to relate to the MQHA board the activities and needs of MAQHA, and to serve as a means of communication between the Board of Directors of MQHA and MAQHA. Any member of the Association, including elected officers or Directors, may serve in this capacity. This appointment is subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of MAQHA.

Section 3. Vice President: In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall have the powers and shall perform the duties of the President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Secretary-Treasurer: the Secretary-Treasurer shall keep the minutes of all membership meetings and directors' meetings. He or she shall be the custodian for the safekeeping of all documents and records of the Association. The Secretary-Treasurer shall receive all money and shall disburse the same only upon itemized demands and upon the order of the Board of Directors. He/she shall account for all of the same by itemized statements in detail to each annual meeting of the members of MAQHA and MQHA, and to the Board of Directors when demanded. He/she shall be ex-officio secretary of all committees appointed by the President or Board of Directors, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 5. Reporter: The Reporter shall have the responsibility of gathering information about the amateurs and their families which might be of interest to our members and to see that they are published on the MQHA website and/or Facebook in a timely manner.

Section 6. All vacancies in the offices of the Association shall be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired term and those appointed shall serve until the election and acceptance of their duly qualified successors.

Section 7. Elected officers shall take office immediately following installation at the annual membership meeting and shall serve until the installation of their duly qualified successors.

ARTICLE VI

Standing Committees

Section 1. A Nominating Committee consisting of one Director from each district shall be appointed by the President each year for the purpose of nominating candidates for the elected offices. The Nominating Committee shall submit at least one candidate for each office. Other nominations will be accepted at the time of the annual meeting.

Section 2. A show committee shall be appointed by the President. The responsibility of this committee shall be to plan the annual AQHA show sponsored by MAQHA.

Section 3. An Awards Committee shall be appointed by the President. The responsibility of this committee shall be to select, procure and distribute appropriate year-end awards including a Sportsmanship award. The committee shall work in conjunction with the MAQHA Treasurer, MQHA Banquet Chairman, and the MQHA Points Secretary to determine budget, schedule and recipients.

Year-end awards will be based on MAQHA points earned during the twelve-month period ending October 31 of the show year.

A champion (highest points) and reserve champion (second highest points) will be selected in each Amateur, Novice Amateur, and Select Amateur class as well as an Overall High-point (All-around) Champion and Reserve Champion in each category (Amateur, Novice Amateur and Select Amateur).

Members must show to five (5) judges in MQHA approved shows during the show year to be eligible for year-end awards.

Section 4. A Scholarship Committee shall be appointed by the President. The responsibility of this committee shall be to accept applicants and select a recipient for the Dixie National

Essay Scholarship according to the rules stipulated by the MAQHA Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended or repealed at any meeting (either regularly scheduled annual meeting or special called meeting) of the Membership.