



Revised: January 11, 2016
Approved: February 11, 2016

ARTICLE I - NAMES AND PURPOSE

Section 1: This association shall be here and after in these by-laws referred to as the "Rhode Island Arabian Horse Association (RIAHA)" or the "Association".

Addendum: The Arabian Horse Club of Rhode Island changed its name to the Rhode Island Arabian Horse Association, effective January 2003.

Section 2: This association has been formed to bring together people interested in advancing and promoting the Arabian and the Half-Arabian horse. To achieve this end, the Association shall become an affiliate member of the Arabian Horse Association (AHA); stimulate popular interests in Arabian horses by conducting, encouraging and aiding exhibits and / or shows featuring the Arabian or Half-Arabian horse; cooperating with other similar organizations, associations, socials and individuals to improve the quality of the Arabian breed; do any and all appropriate things necessary to accomplish the foregoing objective; to forward the interest of the members hereof as owners, breeders and admirers of the Arabian horse breed.

ARTICLE II – MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Section 1: Region 16 shall initially consist of the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont. The geographic territory shall change in accordance with any changes made at the AHA Convention.

Section 2: The membership of Region 16 shall consist of all clubs and associations within the geographic limits of the region who are members in good standing of AHA. These organizations shall hereinafter be referred to as “Member Organizations.” The action of AHA in granting or revoking membership in AHA to any Membership Organization located within the geographic limits of Region 16 shall automatically grant or revoke membership in Region 16.

ARTICLE III – OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Section 1: The officers of the Association shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The President, Vice-President and Treasurer shall be nominated and elected by the general membership. These officers shall hold office for a period of one (1) year. The Secretary and / or Corresponding Secretary shall be appointed by the President and shall also hold office for a period of one (1) year.

Section 2: The President shall preside at all General and Board of Directors meetings of the Association. The President shall appoint all special and standing committees, chairpersons and serve as an ex-officio member of all committees. The President shall conduct the business of the Association in accordance with the RIAHA By-laws.

Section 3: The Vice-President shall preside at all General and Board of Directors meetings in the absence of the President. The Vice-President shall act as the chairperson of the Nominating Committee. In the event of vacancy in the office of President, the Vice-President shall succeed to that office for the unexpired term.

Section 4: The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings and safeguard the records of the Association and shall be ex-officio Secretary of all Board meetings. The Secretary shall conduct, supervise, count and record the balloting of all elections and perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office, including those specifically assigned by the President and /or the Board of Directors.

Section 5: The Treasurer shall keep and safeguard the funds of RIAHA and keep accurate records of same. The Treasurer shall be required to report all monthly receipts and disbursements of all monies handled through this office. The Treasurer shall also act as Membership Chairperson unless one is appointed separately by the President. All books must be surrendered immediately to the President or the Treasurer’s successor upon termination of office.

Section 6: Chairpersons of all committees must be a member of RIAHA in good standing and shall serve for a period not to exceed one (1) year unless appointed for a second term.

Section 7: As an AHA charter association, all Officers must be an individual affiliate voting member of AHA through RIAHA at the time of election and during their term of office.

ARTICLE IV – DIRECTORS AND DUTIES

Section 1: The Board of Directors of the Association shall consist of the maximum of nine (9) members; all officers, most recent past President (for one year) and at least two (2) elected from the general membership.

Section 2: The Directors elected from the general membership shall hold office for a period of two (2) years with two being elected each year.

Section 3: The Corresponding Secretary shall be an honorary, non-voting member of the Board of Directors and shall be responsible for dissemination of information. If no Corresponding Secretary is appointed, the Secretary shall assume the responsibility.

Section 4: As an AHA charter Association, all Directors must be an individual affiliate voting member to AHA through RIAHA at the time of election and during their term of office.

Section 5: The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of one-time per year, or as necessary, to conduct the business of the Association. Any Directors who cannot serve regularly may be asked to resign if he or she fails to attend two (2) consecutive Board meetings without adequate reason. If any Director cannot attend a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board, he or she must notify the President at least twenty-four (24) hours before the meeting, thus permitting the President to know in advance whether or not a quorum will be in attendance.

Section 6: Meetings of the Boards of Directors may be called by the President or any three (3) members of the Board or any four (4) general members in good standing. Each Director shall receive notice of the time and place of the meeting at least ten (10) days in advance if delivered by first-class mail or five (5) days in advance if delivered personally or by telephone or electronic communication.

Section 7: A quorum at any meeting of the Board shall be four (4) or more Directors. A majority of the quorum shall decide any questions that may arise. No business shall be conducted until a quorum is present.

Section 8: The duties of the Directors shall be to advise the Association in promoting, encouraging and fostering interest in the Arabian and Half-Arabian horse. The Directors shall review and act on potential member applications and function in the capacity of the Ethics Review Committee when necessary.

Section 9: All vacancies in the offices of the Association, except that of President, shall be filled by appointment from the Board of Directors. 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. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Directors.

ARTICLE V: COMMITTEES

Section 1: The Chairmen and members of all committees shall be appointed by the President and shall serve at the discretion of the President. The standing committees of RIAHA are: Membership, Scholarship, Show, Year End Awards, Education, and Nominating.

Section 2: The President and Board of Directors may from time to time form other committees as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

Section 1: The time and place of the general membership meeting shall be designated by the Board of Directors, or by approval of the general membership. Each member shall receive a written, electronic, or telephone notice of each meeting at least ten (10) days in advance.

Section 2: Meetings of the Boards of Directors may be called by the President or any three (3) members of the Board or any four (4) general members in good standing. Each Director shall receive notice of the time and place of the meeting at least ten (10) days in advance if delivered by first-class mail or five (5) days in advance if delivered personally or by telephone or electronic communication.

Section 3: A quorum of the general membership meeting shall consist of seven (7) voting members in good standing. A majority of the quorum shall decide any questions that may arise. No business shall be conducted until a quorum is present.

Section 4: All meetings shall be conducted according to the Roberts Rules of Order.

ARTICLE VII – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1: The Nominating Committee shall consist of a minimum of two (2) members: the Vice-President acting as chairperson and Corresponding Secretary. If possible, a maximum of two (2) members of the general membership should also be on the committee.

Section 2: The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of candidates at the September general meeting. Nominations from the floor shall be accepted at this meeting. Elections shall be conducted at the October meeting. No nominations will be accepted at the October meeting. The October meeting will be for elections only.

Section 3: Voting shall be by secret ballot for any office for which there is more than one candidate. The candidates shall be elected by a majority of the voting members.

Section 4: Installation of Officers and Directors shall be held at or before the January meeting. Term of office shall begin upon installation.

Article VIII – MEMBERSHIPS, VOTING RIGHTS AND DUES

Section 1: Eligibility for active membership in good standing

(a) Any individual of good character and reputation interested in the Arabian breed and promoting good horsemanship.

(b) Payment of annual dues for the membership year which shall run from January 1 through December 31 for Associate and Supportive members of RIAHA. Affiliate membership with AHA through RIAHA shall be on a rolling calendar year in accordance with their membership year.

Section 2: Types of membership

(a) Individual Affiliate voting membership: a person who is a current AHA member through RIAHA. May vote, hold office, be on a committee and/or be a delegate at the regional and national level of AHA through RIAHA.

(b) Individual Associate membership: a person who is not a current Affiliate AHA member through RIAHA. Has no voting rights in AHA matters, but may vote on RIAHA matters. Is not eligible to hold office or be a delegate. May also chair or serve on RIAHA committees.

(c) Youth Non-Voting membership: Open to any individual under the age of 19 as of December 1 of the previous calendar year. Has no voting rights and is not eligible to hold office or be a delegate.

(d) Supportive membership: Open to parents, family, and friends of members in good standing. Has no voting rights in AHA matters, but may vote on RIAHA matters. Is not eligible to hold office or be a delegate. May also chair or serve on RIAHA committees.

Section 3: Voting by proxy shall not be allowed.

Section 4: Dues

(a) Dues for the succeeding year shall be proposed by the Board of Directors and set by vote of the general membership at the October meeting.

(b) The RIAHA membership year shall run from January 1 to December 31.

(c) Dues shall be paid to the Membership person.

(d) New members may join AHA and RIAHA at any time, but dues shall not be pro-rated.

Section 5: Membership may be denied to any person not meeting the requirements of the RIAHA By-laws or who does not meet the standards of good sportsmanship as determined by the Board of Directors. No member will have exhibited any actions detrimental to other members of AHA, RIAHA or any animal. Cruelty or unlawful behavior to any animal or person will not be tolerated.

ARTICLE IX – FINANCIAL

Section 1: This Association is an affiliate of AHA. All funds shall be used in accordance with our stated purpose and to provide for the continued functioning of RIAHA.

Section 2: To access Association funds in excess of five hundred dollars shall require approval by two (2) authorized members approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 3: To access Scholarship funds in excess of five hundred dollars shall require the signatures of two (2) authorized members approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 4: At the close of the fiscal year the books shall be reviewed by three (3) members of the Board of Directors in good standing. The books of the Association

may be subject to an outside audit as determined by the President or the Board of Directors.

Section 5: Should the Association be dissolved, any remaining assets shall be donated for equine research, youth promotion or other selected benevolent use.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS & REVISIONS

Section 1:

(a) By-laws will be reviewed on an annual basis by members of the By-laws Committee. Revisions will then be presented to and approved by the Board of Directors. Once approved by the Board of Directors, these By-laws may be altered or amended at any meeting of the Association provided a quorum is present, and by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the regular members present at such meeting and provided that the proposed alterations were presented in writing to all members in good standing at least one (1) month prior to the meeting.

(b) Amendments of By-laws may be presented in writing to the Board of Directors by any voting member in good standing for approval. Once approved by the Board of Directors, this amendment may be altered or amended at any meeting of the Association provided a quorum is present, and by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the regular members present at such meeting and provided that the proposed amendment or alteration was presented in writing to all members in good standing at least one (1) month prior to the meeting.

Section 2: All revisions and amendments passed shall be dated, signed and sent to AHA along with a cover letter signed by the President and Secretary of RIAHA.



This cover letter, with the current By-Laws approved February 11, 2016 attached, was mailed to the Arabian Horse Association per the instructions in Article X Section 2 on November 10, 2016 by Shirley Russell.

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October 22, 2016

Arabian Horse Association
10805 East Bethany Drive
Aurora, CO 80014

Attention: Annie Vohden

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to inform you that the attached Rhode Island Arabian Horse Association's By-Laws is the latest Official Revision of the Association's By-Laws revised and approved in 2016. This is the **ONLY** legal copy. Please **disregard ALL** previous submitted material as it was sent in error and not the final copy of such. The **previous** submitted valid By-Laws should be dated 2003. The attached is the only valid revision since 2003 and dated 2016 to be recorded with AHA. This was just recently brought to our attention; therefore, corrected immediately.

Sorry if we have caused you any inconvenience. A quick reply of acknowledgement to this matter would be greatly appreciated. You may call me at the telephone number or email address stated above.

Thank-You and have a great day.....

Gratefully Yours,

Shirley Russell #546866

Submitted by

Cindy Downs, President
#641356

Rebecca E. Murphy, Secretary
#524333