

## **Junior Louisiana Goat Association: BY-LAWS (Revised 02/01/2026)**

*Upon paying membership and entry fees, all persons involved with that exhibitor on that day, including the exhibitor themselves are agreeing to abide by all Junior Louisiana Goat Association (JLGA) Rules, Guidelines, etc. It is the responsibility of ALL JLGA Parents, Legal Guardians, and appointed Show Guardians to read and be familiar with all JLGA Rules, Guidelines, etc.*

*It is the responsibility of ALL JLGA Exhibitors to exhibit good sportsmanship and be respectable to their fellow exhibitors and Adults present.*

Original JLGA By-Laws, JLGA General Rules & Regulations, JLGA Show Rules, JLGA Safety Disclaimer, JLGA "End of Year" Awards and Banquet Requirements, were first formed by the JLGA Governing Body Members and were approved and adopted for use by the JLGA only, by a majority of the Governing Body Members present at the December 2007 JLGA Governing Body meeting.

The above-mentioned Rules and Guidelines, etc. are updated before the start of each JLGA Show Season and will be posted to the file section of the Junior Louisiana Goat Association Facebook page. These postings will take precedence over any other rules listed on any other pages.

### **BY-LAW #1 NAME -**

For the purpose of including all youth and all goats throughout the state of Louisiana, our association shall be known as the **JUNIOR LOUISIANA GOAT ASSOCIATION (JLGA)**.

### **BY-LAW #2 PURPOSE -**

This association was started to promote the youth goat project throughout the state of Louisiana. It shall exist for the mutual benefit of all its members, and its primary purpose is the promotion of the youth goat project throughout the state of Louisiana. This association shall have the following specific purposes:

- A. Promote the youth goat project throughout the state of Louisiana.
- B. Host open Youth Goat Shows throughout the state of Louisiana.

### **BY-LAW #3 GOVERNING BODY KNOWN AS THE JUNIOR LOUISIANA GOAT ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- **Section 1 - Duties & Authority:** It is the responsibility of ALL JLGA Board Members to read and be familiar with ALL JLGA rules and guidelines including the JLGA Bayou Certified Program, to uphold those rules, and vote according to those rules. The JLGA Board of Directors shall act and make decisions in the best interest of the whole association and a majority shall preside over all Board, General Membership, and Special Meetings. Items to be added or deleted must be presented as a motion and approved or denied by a majority vote of current Board members (of current filled seat at time of meeting). Once a Board Member has cast their vote, it is recorded by the Secretary or person acting as secretary and is considered a matter of record and cannot be changed without that issue or matter being brought up again at the next meeting when another vote shall be called. In the event this happens, the Board Member(s) changing their mind, will be expected to present reasoning for their actions.
- **Section 2 - JLGA Board Meetings:** There will be a JLGA Board of Directors meeting between the JLGA General Membership Meeting and the first show of the season. The JLGA Board of Directors meeting time and location will be determined by the JLGA Board of Directors and it can be held virtually if necessary. Any changes to the Bylaws made at the JLGA Board of Directors meeting will be posted on the JLGA Facebook page. Special meetings may be called when in the Board of Directors opinion there is pressing business that needs attention before the next scheduled

meeting, advance notice is not required for “Special” Board Meetings. The JLGA Board of Directors Meeting, with the exception of "Special" Meetings are open to the General Membership and discussion will be taken from the floor.

- **Section 3 - Selecting JLGA Board of Directors:**
  - **Section 3A - Number and Types of Seats to be filled:** There will be a 9 member Board of Directors. When there is an even number of JLGA Board Seats filled, the following goes into effect immediately: At JLGA Board Meetings & “Special” meetings where ONLY Board Members vote, If there are an even number of the current Board Members in attendance at a meeting, then current JLGA Board Chair will abstain from the original vote and will serve as tie breaker if the need arises.
  - **Section 3B - Term:** At each last show of the season, current Board members will be asked if they wish to continue holding their seat for the upcoming year and if so, and there are no objections, then those board members will retain their seats for the upcoming JLGA Show Season.
  - **Section 3C - Election Process:** In the event the Annual meeting cannot be held and there are empty board seats to be filled for the upcoming year, a “Special JLGA Board Meeting” may be held prior to the start of the next show year. At this “Special Meeting” current JLGA Board of Directors may vote by a majority to fill those seats with any eligible candidates. If there are not enough eligible candidates to fill empty seats, then those seats will remain open and another eligible candidate process will take place prior to the first show of the season, with the voting process to take place by the General Membership present at this first show of the Season. In the event there are still not enough eligible candidates present at the first show of the season to fill any remaining empty Board Seats for that year, those seats will remain unfilled till the Annual election of that year.
  - **Section 3D - Candidate Qualifications for JLGA Board Seats:**
    - **1)** Board Members can come from any JLGA Parent, Grandparent, Aunt, Uncle, or legal guardian, who will be at least 21 years of by the end of the current show season, of any current JLGA YouthMember in good standings, as long as that adult is helping those youth at the JLGA shows.
    - **2)** Persons living the same household may not serve on the JLGA Board of Directors at the same time.
    - **3)** Board Members of current JLGA members, their members must attend a minimum of 4 shows in a show season in order to be eligible for the option to keep their board seat for the following year.
    - **4)** ALL JLGA Board Seat Candidates and their youth should be present at the Annual General Membership Meeting. In the event the election is held at a “Special” meeting, then all eligible Board Candidates that wish to run for any empty seats, MUST be in attendance at that “Special” JLGA Board Meeting or contact the JLGA Board Secretary in advance if attendance is not possible.
  - **Section 3E - JLGA Board of Directors Candidate Application Process:**

All candidates wishing to run for any vacant Board seat **MUST** first meet **ALL** qualifications. They must make contact the current JLGA Secretary within the allotted time frame that is to be posted in the upcoming election notice and must adhere to the following candidate process:

- **1.** Two weeks prior to the date of the scheduled election, an announcement will be placed on the JLGA Facebook page, regarding any upcoming empty Board Seats. ALL JLGA By-laws pertaining to the Election and Voting processes will be posted on that notice. This will start the candidate process, which will last for 2 weeks. At the end of that two weeks, the application process for that election date will be closed. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- **2.** In the event there are not enough eligible candidates to fill all the JLGA Board Seats at the Annual General Membership Meeting, then a separate election will take place at the first show of the next coming JLGA Show Season. There will be a new election nomination period to take place for that election. If there are still not enough eligible candidates to fill any empty Board seat by the first show of the next JLGA Show Season, then any empty seats will remain open until the Fall General Membership Meeting of the current JLGA Show Season (the last show of that current show season).
- **Section 3F - Voting Process:** Each family present at the designated election date, with at least 1 current JLGA member has 1 vote. Adult JLGA Members who have no youth JLGA Members in their immediate family are not eligible to vote, unless they are a current JLGA Board Member as defined above. Voting is to be done in person at the specified election location and date.
- **Section 3G - Publication of Election Results:** After election at Annual General Membership Meeting, the next year's Board of Directors will be announced on the JLGA Facebook Page.
- **Section 3H - Dismissal of Board Seat Member:** A Board Member may be asked to resign by a majority vote from the remaining JLGA Board of Directors if it is found that the Board Member(s) in question has acted in a disruptive or inappropriate manner at any JLGA event or JLGA function at any time while representing themselves as a JLGA Board Member(s), or they have acted in a manner deemed detrimental to the values and beliefs of the JLGA, or has acted against any JLGA Rules and/or Guidelines. Any JLGA Board Member that was dismissed, resigned without fulfilling their term for reasons other than health issues or youth aging out, left the Board not in good standings, or failed to attend Board Meetings during their term without advance notice to a current Board Member (unless it was an emergency situation), may not ever be allowed to serve as a JLGA Board Member in the future.
- **Section 3I - Filling Board Seat Upon Resignation:** Any vacant board seats during the show year will remain vacant and filled during the next Candidate Application Process.

#### **BY-LAW #4 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

**Section 1 - Frequency:** General Membership meeting to be held at the JLGA Annual Awards Ceremony to finalize the upcoming show season. If no Annual Awards Ceremony is held the General Membership meeting will be held before the 1st show of the season. Other JLGA Board Meetings will take place throughout the year as the need arises. At the discretion of the JLGA Board of Directors, other meetings may be held if there is pressing business that needs attention before the next scheduled meeting or when a written or verbal request is received from the majority of the current General Membership. Time and place to be determined by the JLGA Board of Directors.

- **Section 2 - Meeting Content:** Any business properly brought before the association general membership may be discussed and acted upon at the Annual General Membership meeting.
- **Section 3 - Voting:** Regarding any changes to the board of directors.

#### **BY-LAW #5 OFFICERS**

**Section 1 - Selection of Adult Officers:** JLGA Adult Officers are to come from the current JLGA Board of Directors. This election is to immediately follow that year's election of Board Members & follow the Candidate Application Process.

There shall be a Chair, Co-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer

- **Duties of Adult Officers:**
- **Chair** - shall preside over all JLGA Meetings
- **Co-Chair** - in the absence of the Chair, shall preside over all JLGA Meetings
- **Secretary** - shall record and present meeting minutes at all meetings
- **Treasurer** - shall maintain association funds and report financial status to JLGA Board of Directors at the Annual General Membership Meeting. JLGA Adult Treasurer is responsible for show deposits to be deposited into the JLGA account within one week after a show. If for some reason the current JLGA Adult Treasurer cannot get the deposit done in this amount of time, then they may ask another board member to make the deposit for them.
- **Section 2 - Selection of Senior and Junior Youth Council:** There will be an application posted on FB or website for any youth 12 years and older that wishes to apply for the youth council.

Board of Directors will appoint at each annual Board of Director's meeting those senior and junior youth members who demonstrated exemplary leadership skills during the prior show year. These members will be recognized at the first show of the year and will serve as Youth Council members for the term of one year.

#### **BY-LAW # 6 MEMBERSHIP**

- **Section 1 - Active Membership:** Youth ages 2 - 19 years of age as of January 1 of the year are eligible for membership. Pee Wee youth who will turn 2 during the year and wish to start showing may start showing before they are 2 if they are walking and can walk with a youth heeler to start learning to show and **parents provide them with an age and size appropriate goat.**
- **Section 2 - Cancellation or Refusal of Membership:** When the welfare of the association justifies such action, the JLGA Board of Directors, by a majority vote, may cancel the membership of any member. If a membership is canceled, the person holding that membership may register a written appeal to the Adult present for a vote by the General Membership. The appeal must be received no later than 14 days after notice of cancellation. The appeal can ONLY be approved by a majority vote of the active membership present at the general membership meeting the appeal is presented.
- **Section 3 - Dues:** The JLGA Board of Directors shall set annual dues. All memberships are due each year before youth members participate in any of that year's activities including but not limited to General Membership Meetings, Board Meetings, and JLGA Shows & Events, etc.

#### **BY-LAW #7 AMENDMENTS**

JLGA By-Laws ALL Rules and Guidelines, and ALL JLGA Procedures may be amended, repealed, or changed at any meeting by a majority vote of the current JLGA Board Members present at the meeting. All amendments and/or changes to JLGA By-Laws, ALL Rules and Guidelines, and ALL JLGA Procedures will become effective immediately upon meeting the requirements of passage unless otherwise specified. **BY-LAW #8 REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

The JLGA belongs to its members and as such any JLGA Member's Parent(s) can request to view or to have a copy of any information that is kept in the JLGA Adult Secretary's Book regarding any JLGA proceedings or past events or issues related to the JLGA.

#### **BY-LAW #9 NOTIFICATION OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

Anytime disciplinary action is taken involving JLGA Members, their parent(s), and/or guardian(s), other family members, or anyone participating in JLGA Events or Shows, the person(s) involved are to be notified by the JLGA Chair or the Current JLGA Adult Secretary on behalf of the JLGA Board of Directors as a whole, of the situation, given the date of the "Special" Board Meeting that will be set to take care of this issue, and invited to attend to present their side of the matter. In the event the person(s) involved cannot or choose not to be present at the meeting, they may send any information or documents pertinent to their issue to present at the meeting on their behalf by the current JLGA Adult Secretary. Within 14 days of the meeting, a certified letter will be mailed to the person(s) receiving the disciplinary actions along with copies of any evidence presented both for and against the issue at hand.

#### **BY-LAW #10 CONFRONTATIONAL SITUATIONS**

It is the responsibility of the JLGA Board of Directors as a whole, to attempt to end any conflict or disruptive behavior as calmly as possible and/or to serve as "go between" to attempt to present a resolution between person involved in any conflict at any JGLA shows, events, and/or meetings. Any Board Members attempting to present a resolution must seek counsel of the current JLGA Board of Directors present at the time of the conflict and have said members present for all conflict resolutions. JLGA Shows are youth shows and we as adults have the responsibility to present an example of good sportsmanship at all times. The JLGA shows are not the place to present any matters that may disrupt the show or events in progress. The JLGA has zero tolerance of any disruptive behavior and at the discretion of the Board of Directors, disciplinary action may be taken against any person(s) intentionally disrupting the show or acting in a disrupting manner. If a person has issue or a disagreement including but not limited to any JLGA Personnel, competition or events of the day, Judge's ruling, or other exhibitors or their parents, that person(s) must address their concerns with one of the JLGA Board of Director Members immediately before the situation escalates.

If a situation presents, the JLGA Board Members present will try to diffuse the situation as quickly as possible. ALL Adult parties involved will be asked to immediately step outside the building with the JLGA Board Members to try and resolve the matter. If the matter is resolved, then all parties may re-enter the building and continue to participate in the show and/or activities of the day. If one or more of the parties involved cannot or refuse to resolve the matter, or re-enters the building and then initiates conflict again, they will be asked by the JLGA Board of Directors to immediately leave the show or events for that day. If the situation cannot be resolved and/or is escalating out of control, or parties involved were asked to leave and refuse to do so, then local law enforcement will be notified. Parties escorted off the show ground premises or asked to leave may not return to participate in that day's activities or events. They will be welcome to attend the next JLGA Show or Event, providing they do not initiate any further conflict at any JLGA Show or event.

Disciplinary action at the discretion of the JLGA Board of Directors in place at the time of any disruptive incidence(s) may or may not be taken including but not limited to, suspension of membership either temporary or permanently.

#### **BY-LAW #11 JUNIOR LOUISIANA GOAT ASSOCIATION FACEBOOK PAGE**

The Junior Louisiana Facebook page was created after a majority vote from the General Membership meeting in the fall of 2010 for the purpose of posting notices and updates related to the organization. We do not allow for sale ads on the JLGA facebook page.

**The following is pinned as a description for the page:**

This page is for the Junior Louisiana Goat Association. We welcome anyone that is interested in learning more about the youth goat project, youth and adults alike. We are a youth goat association in Louisiana focusing on the youth, their goat projects, whatever breed they decide to go with, and to promote goats, bred, conceived, born and raised in the state of Louisiana through the JLGA Bayou Certified Program. Please know that all spam ads or ads for other items not specifically related to livestock will be removed. You will get one warning and on the second offense you will be banned. Thank you for your consideration and cooperation in this matter.

**The Junior Louisiana Goat Association Facebook page is for the purposes stated above ONLY and the following additional rules apply:**

- 1. There are three administrators for the page, all active members of the JLGA Board of Directors. They may approve or disapprove any submitted JLGA Facebook page membership. Person(s) wishing to join this Facebook page do not have to be a current JLGA member.
- 2. JLGA Meeting Minutes Will be posted to the Junior Louisiana Goat Association Facebook page and/or JLGA website. HOWEVER, no discussion of the JLGA Board Minutes is allowed on the JLGA Facebook page, due to this page being a youth page. If anyone has any questions regarding any of the JLGA Minutes posted to the JLGA Facebook, they can message any of the current JLGA Board of Directors.
- 3. Negative posts will be copied and removed immediately by any administrator as stated above. If the problem persists from the same person or persons, then they will be banned from the page. If the person in question is an active member of the JLGA, disciplinary actions may be taken at the discretion of the current JLGA Board of Directors. If problem persist, member may be permanently banned from the JLGA by a majority vote of the current JLGA Board of Directors.

**By-Law #12 Conducting JLGA Board Business Via Facebook Private Board Thread:** Due to the fact that not all JLGA Board Members are relatively close, and some things may need to be discussed before the next board meeting, a JLGA Board Facebook Private Message thread or Group me private message thread will be started each year.

The thread will act as a place to discuss and rule on things that may not be able to wait till the next in person Board or General Membership meeting. All rules that apply to conduct of business in person will apply to business conducted in this thread.

All post and comments on this thread count as being entered into record and cannot be deleted once they have been posted. If the post was made by mistake, poster may notify board and delete the post. However, if the post was in response to JLGA Business and was removed without prior notice and reasoning to the current JLGA Board of Directors, then disciplinary action may be taken.

**By-Law #13 - Complaint Process**

The JLGA has an open-door policy regarding questions, comments, suggestions, or complaints. However, they are to be presented, at all times, in a civil adult manner. Any issue brought forth in a demanding or disruptive manner **WILL NOT** be addressed until person bringing issue forth can do so in a calm and civil manner.

If any person has a complaint regarding but not limited to an issue that occurred at any JLGA show or event or any other issue they would like addressed by the JLGA Board of Directors, then that person must file a complaint with the JLGA as follows:

- 1) ALL complaints **MUST** be in writing and received within 5 business days of the date of the incident. **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- 2) It is the responsibility of the JLGA Board Members as a whole, to review all submitted information and come to a resolution, based on JLGA rules and facts presented. No issue will be ruled on hearsay or unproven facts.

### **Complaint Process after Complaint has been received**

Once the above steps have been met within the set timeline, then it is the responsibility of the Board of Directors as a whole, to review all submitted information and come to a resolution, based on JLGA rules and facts presented. **No issue will be ruled on hearsay or unproven facts.** Complaints may be discussed on the JLGA Board of Directors thread without having to have a face to face meeting.

Once the complaint is received, it then becomes a board matter and is **NOT** to be discussed with any other person(s) outside the board, with the exception of the Adult Secretary or other appointed Board Member while obtaining additional information and searching for facts on the issue.

Failure to keep the complaint within the board **DOES NOT** apply to JLGA Adult Secretary or other Board Member(s) appointed to investigate the complaint.

No complaint may be filed against any JLGA Board member while acting in their capacity as such, as long as they are abiding by current JLGA Rules in place at the time of the complaint.

### **By-Law #14 - Code of Conduct**

Adult Code of Conduct: Due to the fact that the Junior Louisiana Goat Association is a youth association and its members are minors, it is the responsibility of **ALL** JLGA Youth Exhibitor's Parents and/or Legal Guardians to make sure they read and are familiar with all JLGA Rules, etc. **Upon paying membership and entry fees, ALL said adults are agreeing to abide by ALL JLGA Rules, etc.** If it is found at any time that there was a JLGA Rules infraction including but not limited to missing information not provided, misrepresentation of information presented, poor sportsmanship, disruptive behavior, etc. on part of the exhibitor or Parent or Legal Guardian, the Parent or Legal Guardian **WILL BE** the responsible party for any disciplinary action that may follow.