

BYLAWS OF LONE STAR NAVHDA

ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. This organization shall be known as Lone Star NAVHDA (North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association). The North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association shall henceforth be referred to as the parent organization.

Section 2. The purpose of this organization shall follow the aims and goals of the parent organization, to foster, improve, promote and protect the versatile hunting dog breeds.

Section 3. Activities will include, but not be limited to:

- a) conducting versatile hunting dog tests for the versatile breeds according to the rules of the parent organization;
- b) acquainting hunters and sporting enthusiasts with the history and use of the versatile hunting dog breeds;
- c) cooperating with and supporting other hunting dog clubs who have a similar interest in promoting conservation of game species and versatile hunting dogs;
- d) increasing general awareness of the historic heritage and undiminished value of the trained hunting dog as an indispensable companion for the fair pursuit and conservation of game.

Section 4. Lone Star NAVHDA is a nonprofit organization.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Persons of good standing interested in the North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association may become active members of this organization upon submission of an application and payment of dues. Active members are those who have paid their dues for the current year. Dues are due by the end of February for that Calendar year.

Section 2. Those Lone Star NAVHDA (LSN) members that are not members of the parent organization will be considered associate members but will have all the same rights and privileges as all other members.

Section 3. Expulsion of a member may be made by a majority vote of the membership present for a violation of club rules, misconduct or any action contrary to the conduct of a sporting enthusiast who respects and conserves the natural environment. No refund of dues shall be made. A member thus terminated may petition the Executive Council for reinstatement after a period of 12 months. Decisions of the Executive Council regarding reinstatements are final.

Section 4. The Executive Council may award to lifetime honorary membership without payment of dues any person(s) who makes an outstanding contribution to the chapter or the parent organization.

ARTICLE III. OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The officers of the organization are President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These four offices comprise the Executive Council. The duties of the office of Secretary may at times be fulfilled by the Vice President or other officer. For purposes of accepting motions or conducting chapter business, a majority of the Executive Council must be present at a chapter or officer meeting. To expedite time and travel expenses, chapter business may be conducted electronically, at the discretion of the Executive Council.

Section 2. Officers shall serve for two years beginning January 1 following an election.

Section 3. The President shall serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the chapter, shall appoint replacements to vacancies that may arise in the Executive Council between elections, and shall appoint such committees as are necessary to the club's functioning during the year. These committees may include, but not be limited to issues dealing with testing, training, disputes, parent organization issues, and agenda items that may arise in the normal course of chapter business.

Section 4. The Vice-President shall serve as the Chief Executive Officer in the event of the absence of the Chapter President and shall assist the President in the execution of the duties as deemed necessary by the Chapter President.

Section 5. The Secretary is the communications agent of the chapter and shall be responsible for all chapter correspondence and communication of the chapter, in accordance with its constitution and motions carried by chapter actions. The chapter Secretary shall serve as or appoint the Test Secretary. The Test Secretary shall make all correspondence and preparations necessary to conduct a Chapter test.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall maintain all financial records, receive monies, and pay all bills. The Treasurer shall publish annually a financial statement of the organization, no later than January 31 of each year, for the preceding fiscal year. The fiscal year shall run January 1 to December 31.

Section 7. All members in good standing 18 years of age and older shall have voting privileges. Members under the age of 18 shall be accorded all rights and privileges in the chapter, but shall not be permitted to vote for officers or motions.

Section 8. No person who is now, or who later becomes a member of Lone Star NAVHDA shall be personally liable to its creditors for any indebtedness or liability, and any and all creditors of this chapter shall look only to the assets of the chapter for payment of debts.

ARTICLE IV. ELECTIONS AND MEETINGS

Section 1. The chapter shall have a minimum of one Annual Business Meeting per year. Timing is at discretion of the Executive Council. Other meetings may be held during test weekends as needed at the discretion of the Executive Council.

Section 2. Elections of officers will be held in even number years, with the newly elected officers taking over January 1 of the following year. An Election Chair will be designated by the Executive Council to manage the election process.

Section 3. Nominations for office can be made by e-mail to the Election Chair up to one week prior to the start of the election process. The Results of the Election will be announced by the Election Chair. Specific anonymous voting results will be available for review. Nominees must active LSN members and be a minimum of 18 years of age at the time of taking office to be considered for election.

Section 4. Robert's Rules of Order shall be used to conduct the parliamentary business of the organization to the extent practicable. Unless otherwise stated, decisions made by Executive Council or general membership shall be by simple (> 50%) majority.

Section 5. The by-laws may be modified, repealed or amended, in whole or in part, at any time, by the affirmative vote of majority of the Executive Council. Such change must be made available in writing to all chapter members and will remain in effect unless two-thirds (2/3) of the membership opposes changes in writing or by vote. Changes shall not be retroactive.

ARTICLE V. DUES

Section 1. Lone Star NAVHDA Executive Council shall determine the amount of membership dues. The annual dues are payable no later than February 28 for the ensuing year. For members that join after October 1 their dues for the remainder of that year will be 50% of the annual dues. Membership by a member of an immediate family member shall constitute chapter membership for all members of that immediate family. Children under 18 years of age of that immediate family are members of that family. Children older than 18 years of age need to pay separate dues.

ARTICLE VI. DISSOLUTION

Section 1. In the event that it becomes necessary to dissolve the chapter, upon payment of any outstanding debts and obligation the remaining monies will be given over to the parent organization. In the event of the dissolution of the parent organization which would dictate the dissolution of the Lone Star NAVHDA chapter of the North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association the monies will be donated to an organization which is worthily and successfully working for the betterment of hunting dogs and the North American hunter. This organization will be chosen by a majority vote of the membership.

ARTICLE VII. AWARDS AT TESTS

Section 1. In accordance with International Bylaws policy, awards for the natural ability, utility preparatory, and utility test will be limited to simple awards; every dog qualifying will receive the same award, no other trophies other than those mentioned will be awarded, and no monetary awards will be given at any test.

Section 2. All tests will be conducted in accordance with parent organization rules and guidelines, utilizing parent organization certified judges and procedures.

Section 3. The Executive Council will establish entry fees for tests conducted by the chapter, as well as other fees for chapter events.

Section 4. All tests and training sessions shall be conducted in accordance with all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to the handling of game, dogs, firearms, and ammunition.

Amended May 14, 2022