

SOUTHEASTERN REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1: TITLE, OBJECTIVE, LOCATION

Section I: Title – This organization is incorporated under the laws of the State of North Carolina and shall be known as the Southeastern Reining Horse Association (SERHA or the Association within these by-laws¹) and shall be operated as a non-profit association in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina and the United States of America. SERHA is an affiliate of the National Reining Horse Association (NRHA).

Section II: Objectives – To promote and encourage the showing of reining horses and communicate our goals and suggestions to the NRHA.²

Section III: Location – Place of business. The principal office of the Southeastern Reining Horse Association shall be in the State of North Carolina at such place as the Board of Directors shall designate.³

Section IV: Dissolution – Upon the dissolution of the Association (SERHA), the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Association, dispose of all the assets of the Association exclusively for the purposes of the Association in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational⁴ or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under the Internal Revenue Code⁵ as the Board of Directors⁶ shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas⁷ of the County⁸ exclusively for such purpose or to such organization or organizations of said court determine, which are organized or operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE 2: Officers and Board of Directors

Section I: Officers – The officers of the Association shall be named President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Past President. The Officers of the Association shall constitute the Executive Board.⁹

Section II: Board of Directors – The business of this Association shall be managed by its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the Executive Board plus five(5) members, elected by the general membership. One(1) elected board member will be designated as director for the youth association.¹⁰ All Officers and elected Directors¹¹ shall be elected by the general membership when and where designated by the current Officers and Board Of Directors. To become an Officer or Director an individual must have been a member in good standing for one full year immediately prior to nomination. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to appoint members to committee chair positions, as needed, for the smooth operation of the organization, i.e. Banquet, Prize, or hospitality committees. It shall be at the discretion of the Board to appoint and allow a youth representative to join Board of Directors meetings.

Section III: Election – Elected Board Members shall be elected to a term of two consecutive years, as follows: in the even numbered years (example, 2002) three (3) Board Members will be elected and serve for two (2) consecutive years; in the odd numbered years (example, 2003) two (2) new Board Members will be elected and serve for two (2) consecutive years, thus maintaining a Board with at least two (2) returning Board Members.

Section IV: Nominations - Board of Directors to present nominees¹³ for all Officers and available Board positions. Members may nominate a candidate for consideration, provided the nominee has agreed to the nomination and qualifies for nomination under the requirements previously set forth in these bylaws.¹⁴

Section V: Voting - Each individual dues paying member is entitled to one vote. A family membership entitles each adult family member, limited to two (2), to one vote each. The election shall be by closed ballot and shall be audited by the current Executive Board or their designee. In the event of a tie in the election, the current Board of Directors will vote to break the tie. Any Director shall be disqualified in voting to break a tie involving themselves or a member of their family.¹⁵

ARTICLE 3: Officers and Board of Directors¹⁶

Section I: The President shall be the Executive Officer of the Association (SERHA) and shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors. The President shall serve as Chairman of the Board and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect. The president shall only vote on board matters and concerns in the event of a tie.

Section 11: It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to perform all of the duties of the President in case of his/her absence.

Section 111: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep records of all bank transactions, pay with club funds all debts incurred by the Association and provide a financial report at each regular Board meeting¹⁷

Section IV: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record and maintain all minutes of the Board of Directors' meetings and coordinate communications.

Section V: Removal - Any Board member may be removed if they have missed three (3) consecutive meetings, have had two (2) unexcused absences (unexcused meaning that no officer was contacted about the absence prior to the meeting) or for cause.¹⁸

Section VI: Vacancies - If an Officer or Board Member position becomes vacant for reason, the remaining Board may appoint a successor at their discretion to fulfill the current term.^{9 20}

Section VII: Quorum- A quorum of the Directors shall be necessary to transact business of the Association. A quorum for the purposes of these By-laws is a simple majority of the Board of Directors. Once it is established that a quorum exists, a majority of such quorum shall then decide upon any question that may come before the meeting and shall be binding as though the full Board of Directors was sitting.

Section VIII : Parliamentary Authority — all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be conducted pursuant to Roberts' Rules of Order, Newly Revised.²²

Section IX: For the necessity of day-to-day execution of duties, the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary shall, collectively have the ability to make decisions in relations to funds of no greater amount than \$1000.00.²³

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to any individual of good standing, that is also in good standing with NRHA, that has an interest in reining horses and the promotion of the reining horse. Membership can be individual, business, or family; family to be described as two(2) adults and children living at the same address.

Section I - Membership shall be admitted and retained in accordance with the rules and regulations of the NRHA.

Section 11 - Each member of the Association shall pay annual dues. Said dues are due and payable at the commencement of each fiscal year. The fiscal year for SERHA shall be January 1st through December 31st. All dues and charges are to be set by the Board and noted in official publications. All money paid to SERHA shall be in US Funds.

Section 111 - Membership Meeting. One annual general membership meeting of the Association shall be held at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors. The yearly awards banquet and/or online meeting may be used to fulfill the annual meeting requirement at the discretion of the executive board. Thirty (30) days notice of the meeting will be given to the membership together with a form of online ballot for the election of officers and any by-law amendments. Notices of meetings will be posted online and emailed. Members with no internet access can record votes via paper or verbally to an executive board member.

Section IV - At any meeting of the Association, whether it is a general membership meeting or a special membership meeting, the members present shall constitute a quorum regardless of the number actually present.

ARTICLE 5: AMENDMENTS

Section I - Amendments to the by-laws must be considered and voted upon by the Board of Directors after being published for comment for no less than 60 days.²⁵

ARTICLE 6: AFFILIATION

Section I: Southeastern Reining Horse Association is an Affiliate of the National Reining Horse Association and shall be governed by their rules and regulations.²⁶