

BY-LAWS of the OREGON QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION

A Division of Oregon Quarter Horse Association

To provide for governing of the OREGON QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Oregon Quarter Horse Youth Association is;

To provide beneficial services to our youth members which enhance and encourage Quarter Horse ownership and participation.

To generate growth of the Oregon Quarter Horse Youth Association, the Oregon Quarter Horse Association and the American Quarter Horse Youth Association membership via promotion, advertising, and publicity of the American Quarter Horse.

To uphold the rules of the Oregon Quarter Horse Association, the American Quarter Horse Association and to promote the Quarter Horse industry.

ARTICLE I: NAME

SECTION 1: NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION. "THE OREGON QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION" (OQHYA) shall be the name of the organization.

SECTION 2: BOUNDARIES. The Association boundaries shall include all territory within the boundaries of the State of Oregon.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Its object shall be to promote in all ways the interests of Quarter Horses and all related activities of this breed for members 18 years of age and under, to cooperate with the American Quarter Horse Youth Association and all other groups who are interested in promoting youth activities and/or Quarter Horses and good sportsmanship.

ARTICLE III: POWERS VESTED

SECTION 1: POWERS VESTED. Except as these by-laws provide otherwise, all powers of the Association shall be vested in the Board.

SECTION 2: BOARD OF DIRECTORS. The Board shall be composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer and eight (8) Directors elected from the current members in good standing. At the start of a term of office, each Officer & Director and their parent/Guardian will be required to sign a code of ethics. The signed code of ethics will be retained by the OQHA Youth Advisor.

SECTION 3: DIRECTORS - The term of office for each director when elected shall be two (2) years. At each annual election, a President and Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected for a term of one (1) year.

SECTION 4: QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS. All Officers and Directors must meet eligibility rules age-wise for membership with the AQHYA for the current year and be a member in good standing with OQHYA. All youth running for office must have been a Board member for at least one (1) year. In the event there are no current Directors willing to run it will be opened up for any OQHYA member in good standing.

ARTICLE IV-BOARD OF DIRECTORS / MEETINGS

SECTION 1: MEETINGS. The Board of Directors shall hold monthly meetings or as deemed necessary. Meetings may be held in person, via electronic mail or by conference call at a designated place and/or time. It shall adopt rules and regulations for the government of its members and procedures. Any rules and/or regulations concerning the whole membership will be established at the annual convention for the following year and will not be changed for the duration of the year. By the September Directors meetings, the President shall appoint a nominating committee to prepare a slate of candidates for each office and vacancy for Directorship. This slate will be announced at the October Directors meeting. Additional candidates from the floor will be accepted for each position at the Annual Membership Meeting.

SECTION 2: ATTENDANCE. All Board members and officers are responsible for attending meetings. If unable to attend the President or Youth Advisor must be informed prior to the meeting to excuse the absence. After three (3) absences and a vote by the Board of Directors, a Board member shall be removed and replaced by one of the alternates elected in the general election.

SECTION 3: QUORUM. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for its business, but a smaller number may meet and compel the attendance of absent members by written proxy, phone or electronic communication. The absent Board Members at the next Board meeting(s) will sign a written record of these votes and the Secretary will keep a written record.

SECTION 4: MEETINGS TO BE PUBLIC. All meetings and deliberations of the Board of Directors shall be public.

SECTION 5: ANNUAL MEETINGS. Immediately following the Annual Membership Meeting, the Secretary shall send each member in good standing a ballot of candidates for each office and vacancy of directorships, the Member shall vote this ballot and return it to the OQHA Secretary. The ballot shall be counted by two OQHA Board members, excluding any family of OQHYA candidates. A list of newly elected officers and directors shall then be sent to all members. In the event of a tie, the Board Members counting the ballot shall break the tie by drawing the name of the winner out of a hat. Results shall be announced at the OQHA Convention, the January Director's meeting and by mail.

ARTICLE V: FUNCTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS. (as outlined by AQHYA)

SECTION 1: PRESIDENT. The president shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association, subject to the direction of the Board of Directors and shall preside at all meetings of the members and the Board of Directors. The President shall appoint all committees of the Association subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. The President shall submit to the members at the annual meeting a report of the status of the Association and its activities during the preceding year.

The President is responsible for providing leadership to the members and high moral standards which should be displayed in all actions performed while in office. This is for two reasons, to give younger members a role model and to show parents and adults inside and outside of the Association that OQHYA youth can be respected as responsible young people in our communities.

SECTION 2: VICE PRESIDENT. In 1994, OQHYA voted to combine the Reporter duties with the Vice President as suggested by AQHYA. The Vice President/Reporter share many of the duties of the President, assisting with both coordination and administration of rules and regulations, in addition to conducting meetings. The Vice President/Reporter should assist the President by heading committee appointments of youth members and coordinating special projects. And in the absence, disability or inability to act as the President, the Vice-President/Reporter shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President and shall perform such other duties as the President and Board of Directors shall from time to time prescribe. The Vice President/Reporter shall have the responsibility of reporting on the activities of the Association to the Quarter Horse Journal and the AQHYA. The Vice-President/Reporter may also be responsible for a scrapbook and newsletter which is distributed to the members to keep them informed of activities.

SECTION 3: SECRETARY. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the members and the Board of Directors and shall record or cause to be recorded all votes taken and the minutes of all proceedings in a minute book of the Association to be kept for that purpose. The Secretary shall perform like duties for the committees when requested to do so. The Secretary shall have the principal responsibility to give or cause to be given notice of all meetings of the Board of Directors and the members. Such notice should be given no less than ten (10) days before the meeting is to be held. The Secretary is responsible for maintaining or causing to maintain communication between the executive committee, Board of Directors and the youth advisor and shall ensure that communication is kept clear between youth officers and members of the parent association if it is not done by the youth advisor. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer would be combined in the event of a vacancy in either office during a term. The combined office would complete the remainder of the term of office.

SECTION 4: TREASURER. The Treasurer shall have the responsibility to keep or cause to be kept a full and accurate account of all receipt and disbursements in books belonging to the Association. The Treasurer shall keep or cause to be kept all other books of account and accounting records of the Association as shall be necessary. The Treasurer shall render to the President of the Association and to the Board of Directors, at each meeting, an account of all financial transactions and the condition of the Association. In addition, the Treasurer shall make an annual report to the membership.

SECTION 5: BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Shall serve on committees and assist officers in the deliberations of the Association.

ARTICLE VI - AQHYA WORLD QUALIFYING REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY. Youth shall be eligible for the AQHYA World Championship Show by being members in good standing of the AQHYA and OQHYA and qualifying through the national point system or the state point system. To attend the AQHYA World show as a team member and receive funds from the OQHYA, the youth will be required to participate in eighty (80) percent of the OQHYA World show meetings, be actively involved with at least two (2) fundraising activities prior to the World show and participate in **all** youth world show team activities (parade of states, stall decorating, team photo, etc). Failure to comply with the requirements could result in the youth not being allowed to compete at the AQHYA show or receive funds from the OQHYA at the desecration of the Youth Advisor and the OQHA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will vote each year on an amount to be awarded to youth qualified for the AQHYA World Championship show. This amount will be held and applied toward club expenses, including but not limited to t-shirts, jackets, vests, stalls, fans and feed. **THE ONLY PORTION OF THESE EXPENSES TO BE**

PROVIDED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, WILL BE THE AMOUNT VOTED AND APPROVED. The balance will be billed to each participant.

SECTION : NATIONAL QUALIFIERS. Any youth qualifying through the national point system will not count as part of the four (4) state qualifiers.

SECTION 3: STATE POINT SYSTEM. Any youth member planning to attend the AQHYA World Show will need to pay a \$50.00 fee and fill out a declaration form by March 1 of the qualifying year. The declaration is for the youth member. Multiple horses may be declared on one form. The four (4) contestants in each youth class who accumulates the most points from the OQHA approved shows within the State of Oregon from January 1 through May 25 of each year shall be eligible to represent Oregon at the Youth World Championships. The classes to be represented are the classes listed specifically as 18 & under: **Halter, Western Riding, Showmanship, Horsemanship, Western Pleasure, Hunter under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Trail, Working Cowhorse, Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Cutting, Reining and all Roping classes.** Anyone wishing to participate at the Youth World show in any classes not listed here, must petition the OQHA Board of Directors.

SECTION 4 : ALTERNATES. OQHYA shall name at least one alternate for each class for the AQHYA world show. All AQHYA procedures will be followed concerning an alternate attending in the place of a qualifier.

STANDING RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. YEAR END AWARDS

The total assessment fees collected during the year dictate the quality and type of awards given. These awards are funded by OQHA. Awards funded by OQHA.

A. AGE DIVISIONS: Year end awards will be given in some form to OQHYA members in the following divisions: Youth 18 & Under, Level 1 (Novice) Youth 13 and Under, Level 1 (Novice) Youth 14 – 18 and small fry. Trophy style awards will be awarded in the Rookie Division.

B. POINTS: The OQHYA will determine the year end high points using the same point system as the OQHA and explained in the OQHA rules and regulations. The youth minimum shall be ten (10) points. A horse must compete in a given class to a minimum fourteen (14) judges at OQHA approved shows within the State of Oregon and earn a minimum of ten (10) year-end points to be eligible for a year-end award. If a class Champion is given at year-end then a Reserve Champion award will also be given, even if the exhibitor has less than ten (10) points but meets the judge requirement. Memberships must be paid by April 1 each year in order to accumulate points towards a year-end award. Points will begin accumulation each year only after the membership fee has been paid.

C. Tie breakers for all awards will be:

1. The most number of firsts
2. The most number of seconds
3. The most number of thirds
4. If a tie still exists it shall be a decision of the Board of Directors as how to break the tie.

D. ALL-AROUNDS: Working Horse and Performance Horse: The winning horse in each division would be the horse with the most halter plus performance points in two or more AQHA performance categories (OQHA points plus AQHA points) in each division. The horse must have a minimum of 10 points in halter and a minimum of 10 points in each of the two performance categories. Categories are listed in the AQHA handbook. Working horse division categories: 1 (Halter), 2 (Reining, Ranch Riding & Working Cowhorse only), 3 (Speed Events), 6 (Roping & Cutting). Performance horse division categories: 1 (Halter), 2 (Western Riding, Ranch Riding & Trail only), 4 (Over Fences), 5 (Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle), 7 (Showmanship, Horsemanship, Hunt Seat Equitation). A horse must compete to a minimum fourteen (14) judges at OQHA approved shows within the State of Oregon in 2 categories. **OQHYA must raise the funds by fundraising to pay for one (1) of the All Around awards. If the funds are not raised the All Around award will return to an overall All Around and follow the above listed criteria.

E. HI-POINT and RESERVE LEVEL 1 (NOVICE) YOUTH: The level 1 (novice) youth 14-18 & 13 & Under with the highest total number of points in all OQHA approved level 1 (novice) youth classes will receive an award presented by OQHA. These awards are for one (1) horse and rider combination. A horse must compete to a minimum fourteen (14) judges at OQHA approved shows within the State of Oregon.

F. HI-POINT and RESERVE ROOKIE YOUTH: The rookie youth with the highest total number of points in all OQHA approved rookie youth classes will receive an award presented by OQHA. These awards are for one (1) horse and rider combination. A horse must compete to a minimum fourteen (14) judges at OQHA approved shows within the State of Oregon.

G. TOP FIVE AWARDS: These awards funded by the OQHYA. Top five awards will be given in each of the youth divisions. The youth divisions (Working Horse and Performance Horse) will be determined by the youth(s) with the highest number of points in two (2) AQHA categories. The Level 1 (Novice) Youth divisions will be determined by the youth with the highest number of points in two (2) AQHA categories. Small fry division will be determined by the youth

with the highest number of points. Points will begin accumulation each year only after the membership fee has been paid. A horse must compete to a minimum fourteen (14) judges at OQHA approved shows within the State of Oregon.

2. MEMBERSHIP

- A. Members shall be admitted to the Association on written application and accompanied by the initial membership fee: unless rejected by the parent Board within thirty (30) days after receipt.
- B. Proper receipts, certificates or membership cards shall be issued upon payment of fees, initial and annual.
- C. An initial membership fee shall be paid by each applicant for regular membership (including an applicant for reinstatement who has been dropped from the membership roll for any cause). An annual fee shall be paid by each member, which shall be due and payable on January 1 of each year. Any member shall not be considered in good standing so long as delinquent dues remain unpaid.
- D. The age of the applicant shall be determined by his or her age on January 1 of that year and shall be maintained throughout the entire year.
- E. Memberships must be paid by April 1 each year in order to accumulate points towards a year-end award.
- F. Points will begin accumulation each year only after the membership fee has been paid.
- G. All members while in good standing shall have equal rights, interest and responsibilities with respect to the Association and its property. All members shall have the right to vote, in person or by proxy, in all membership meetings, to hold office and committee assignments, except as otherwise limited. One membership shall be entitled to one vote and shall be entitled to hold one office.
- H. A member in good standing is defined as an active member who is current in all payments or fees and who abides by the rules, regulations and by-laws of the OQHA, OQHYA and AQHYA organizations.