

# LOUISIANA STATE APPALOOSA CLUB

## By-Laws

ARTICLE I: The purposes of the Louisiana State Appaloosa Club are:

To promote the Appaloosa horse at the regional level, to cooperate with and aid in every way the ApHC, to abide by the Rules and Regulations printed in the current Official Handbook of the Appaloosa Horse Club, and to engage in other lawful activities, none of which shall be for profit.

ARTICLE II: Members

Section 1. There shall be five classifications of members: individual adult, individual youth, family, lifetime individual, and lifetime family. Adult members are defined as 19 years of age and over; individual youth are defined as being 18 years of age and under on January 1 of the current year; family members are defined as parents/guardians and their children having not reached 19 years of age on January 1 of the current year and living in the same home. Lifetime individual membership is for the lifetime of the individual and lifetime family is for the lifetime of the parents or guardians. Membership dues shall be payable January 1 of each year. Membership runs from date paid until Dec. 31 of current year. Members in arrears 60 days shall be deemed to be delinquent and will be dropped from the membership rolls.

Section 2. Voting rights. All paid members above the age of 18 in good standing with the Louisiana State Appaloosa Club shall have the right to cast votes on any subject at any membership meeting. Individual and individual lifetime memberships are entitled to one vote and family and family lifetime memberships are entitled to two votes.

Section 3. Non-Transferable Membership. The membership in this club is non-transferable. Any attempt to transfer shall immediately void the membership and relieve the club of any obligation to refund any dues paid.

Section 4. Due Process

- A. Those members abusing or misusing their privileges of membership will have their memberships revoked after an appropriate hearing of the club's Board of Directors.
- B. Membership may be terminated for the following reasons: a) resignation of the member, b) default in the payment of dues or other monies owed to the Louisiana State Appaloosa Club, or; c) an egregious act has been committed against officers, directors or other members of the Louisiana State Appaloosa Club.

- C. Suspension or revocation for valid cause after an appropriate hearing to the Board of Directors, giving the member involved notice of said hearing and opportunity to be present, upon the affirmation vote of the majority of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Reinstatement. Members may, upon application, be reinstated at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Members are expected to serve on such committees, panels, or work groups as necessary to support the club in its functions.

Section 7. Year-end awards. All paid members of the Louisiana State Appaloosa Club are eligible to earn year-end awards presented by the club. This includes representing the Louisiana State Appaloosa Club at the World Championship Appaloosa Show, as recorded in the club's point system.

### ARTICLE III: Meeting of Members

Section 1. Membership Meetings. The Annual Membership Meeting shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Award's Banquet in December. Another General Membership Meeting will be held in May or June of each year. Both meetings will be held at a time and place determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Special Meetings. Special meetings can be called by the president, by a majority of the Board of Directors, or by a majority of the voting members in good standing. A request for a general membership meeting called by the voting members must be signed by at least 51% of the voting membership.

Section 3. Notice of Meeting. A Special Meeting of the membership shall require prior written notice to be mailed to each member postmarked at least 15 days prior to the meeting at the members last known mailing address.

Section 4. Quorum. Those voting members in attendance at the Annual Meeting or any Special Meeting shall constitute a quorum for that meeting.

Section 5. Voting Rights. At the Annual Meeting and any Special Meeting, only those members in good standing and present at the meeting shall be entitled to vote.

### ARTICLE IV: Board of Directors/Election

Section 1. Territories. For the purposes of election of the Board of Directors, the state is divided by parishes into seven territories as follows: Territory 1: Bossier, Caddo, Bienville, Jackson, Ouachita, Webster, Claiborne, Lincoln, Union, Richland, Morehouse, West Carroll, and East Carroll; Territory 2: Desoto, Red River, Winn, Sabine, Natchitoches, Grant, Rapides, and Vernon; Territory 3: Madison, Caldwell, Franklin, Tensas, Lasalle, Catahoula, Concordia, and Avoyelles; Territory 4: Beauregard, Allen, Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, and Cameron; Territory 5: Evangeline, St. Landry, Pointe

Coupee, Acadia, Iberville, Lafayette, St. Martin, Iberia, and Vermilion; Territory 6: West Feliciana, East Feliciana, West Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge, St. Helena, Livingston, Ascension, Tangipahoa, Washington, and St. Tammany; and Territory 7: St. Mary, Assumption, Lafourche, St. James, St. John the Baptiste, St. Charles, Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, and Terrebonne. There shall be one director elected from each territory and two at-large members elected from the general membership to serve on the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Election. Nominations to the board shall be made by members within a territory to represent that territory. The nominee must reside within the territory. Any member can submit nominees for the two at-large positions. All nominees must be members in good standing with the Louisiana State Appaloosa Club and reside within Louisiana. All nominees shall be submitted to the general membership for a vote. Results will be announced at the Annual Meeting. The affairs of the club shall be managed by its Board of Directors. From the entire elected Board, the members may vote their preferences for President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Only one Board member or Officer may be elected from the same family.

Section 3. Vacancies. In the event of death, written resignation or refusal to serve on the Board, or if any member of the Board is absent from three regularly scheduled Board meetings during the fiscal year of this club without just reason accepted by the Board, the position may be declared vacant on a majority vote of the Directors present. The unexpired term of such a vacancy will be filled through election by the membership at the next scheduled meeting.

#### ARTICLE V: Board of Directors/General Powers

Section 1. General Powers. The Board of Directors shall define the policies of the Louisiana State Appaloosa Club and shall have administrative directions and management of this association.

Section 2. Number and Tenure. There shall be nine directors, one each from the seven territories and two at-large. Terms are for three years with three directors elected each year. Officers shall be elected for one year terms. All terms begin January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Section 3. Officers. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be chosen from the members of the Board, guided by the preferences of the membership, and elected at the annual meeting.

Section 4. Meetings and Quorum. The Board of Directors shall meet at least quarterly in December, March, June, and September each year. A simple majority shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE VI: Officers.

Section 1. President. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer. He shall in general supervise the business and affairs of the club. He shall preside at all meetings of the members of the Board of Directors. He will co-sign, with the Treasurer, all checks that are drawn from the club's bank accounts, and in general, perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 2. Vice-President. In the absence of the President or in the event of his inability or refusal to act, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President, and when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President. He shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the President or by the Board of Directors. It shall also be his responsibility to supervise committees, attend their meetings and furnish a report of their activities when requested by the President.

Section 3. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the members in records solely for that purpose, see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these By-Laws, and be custodian of the corporate records. The Secretary shall also keep the membership roll containing the mailing addresses of all members. It is the responsibility of each member to keep the Secretary informed of any address change. The Secretary may be assigned other duties and functions as designated by the President or Board of Directors.

Section 4. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of the books and accounts, and shall deposit all club funds in such banks or banks as may be approved by the Board of Directors. Such money shall be withdrawn by check and cosigned by the Treasurer and the President. All disbursements must be approved by the Board of Directors prior to payment. A financial report shall be given to the members at all membership meetings. The club's books will be audited annually by a three-member committee appointed by the Board of Directors. Said committee shall be comprised on one Director and two members in good standing of the club.

#### ARTICLE VII: Committees

Section 1. Committees. The members of a committee shall be members in good standing of the club. The Board of Directors shall appoint a Chairperson to such committee as they deem necessary.

Section 2. Term of Committee. The term for any position or committee member is one year, unless the committee is terminated sooner.

Section 3. Point Keeper. The club may provide a point system for all horses in the various show categories. All high point winners are to be presented year-end awards at an awards banquet and/or annual meeting. The point keeper will keep accurate tabulations of the points and report the standings periodically in the newsletter, and will handle the World Championship Appaloosa Show qualifying bids. Points shall be

audited each year. Membership must be paid before Louisiana State Appaloosa Club for points will accumulate for year-end awards.

Section 4. Newsletter Editor. The newsletter is the main communication link for the Louisiana State Appaloosas Club. It shall be published and distributed to the members at least twice a year. Such newsletter shall include minutes and corrections of all meetings, club news and activities and any advertising which will publicize and promote the Appaloosa horse in this club. The regional newsletter may not be used to embarrass, contest or oppose any action of the ApHC staff or Board of Directors at any time, and may not use a disclaimer to any editorial material that in any way fails to promote or cooperate with the ApHC Articles, By-Laws, and Rules.

#### ARTICLE VIII: Conduct and Order of Business.

Section 1. Conduct. Except as required by statute or as otherwise provided in these By-Laws, all meetings of the members, Board of Directors and Committees shall be in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.

Section 2. Order of Business. Order of business of the membership meeting shall be as follows:

- A. Roll call of Directors and Officers and noting of absentees.
- B. Reading and approval of minutes of previous meeting.
- C. Treasurer's report on all receipts and disbursements since previous meeting.
- D. Acting on new membership applications.
- E. Approval of bills, communications, etc.
- F. Reports of committees.
- G. Unfinished/Old business.
- H. New business.
- I. Elections of Directors (any vacancies as well as the annual elections).
- J. Being no other business, adjournment.