

**MISSISSIPPI QUARTER HORSE YOUTH  
ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE I**

**Names, Objects and Location**

**Section 1.** The name of this association shall be: Mississippi Quarter Horse Youth Association, Inc. and shall be at all times operated and conducted as a non-profit association in accordance with the laws of the State of Mississippi and rules and regulations set forth by the American Quarter Horse Youth Association.

**Section 2.** Objects. This Association shall have as its principle objectives:

1. Development of leadership, initiative, self-reliance, sportsmanship and other desirable traits of character.
2. Promote pride of ownership of Registered Quarter Horses among boys and girls
3. The reaching and learning of Horsemanship, both care and handling of horses and participation in the above.

**Section 3.** Location.

Principle place of business for this Association shall be Jackson, Mississippi unless changed by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE II**

**Members**

**Section 1.** Members of the Association shall be admitted, retained and expelled in accordance with such rules and regulations as the Board of Directors may, from time to time, adopt. In all matters governed by the vote of the members; each member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote.

**Section 2.** Whenever in these By-Laws the term member or members is used, it shall mean a number of members paid up and in good standing with the right to vote.

**Section 3.** Members shall consist of boys and girls eighteen (18) years old and younger. Dues shall be for twelve months due upon request for membership. Dues shall be \$6.00 per year. **\*\*\*Amended September 12, 2017 to read: Members shall consist of boys and girls (18) years of age or younger. The age they are on January 1<sup>st</sup>, is the age they stay all year. Dues shall be in accordance with our point year November 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>. Dues will be \$10 a year or you may purchase a lifetime youth membership for \$50. This will be good until said boy or girl is no longer eligible to show in youth competition.**

## **ARTICLE III**

### **Meetings**

**Section 1.** The Association shall meet at least annually at a time and place to be set by the Directors.

**Section 2.** Special meetings of the members may be held at such time and place as may be designated in the notice, whenever called in writing by direction of the President or by a majority of the Board of Directors, or by notice signed by not less than twenty percent of the members in good standing. Notice of each special meeting shall indicate briefly the object or objects of the meeting.

**Section 3.** Notice of all meetings of the members shall be given by mailing a notice stating the time and place of such meeting to each member in good standing, not less than seven (7) days prior to the date of such meeting.

**Section 4.** At any meeting of the members held in accordance with the foregoing provisions as to notice, the members attending the meeting shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Directors**

**Section 1.** The business and property of the Association shall be managed and controlled by the Board of Directors. Any policy or rule set by the membership at a proper meeting shall be strictly adhered to by the Board of Directors. Any action taken by this Association or by its Board of Directors, other than routine action, must be approved by the Mississippi Quarter Horse Association.

**Section 2.** The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers of the Association, all past Presidents and the Directors, from each of the four districts in the state. Past Presidents must comply with membership requirements as stated in Article IV, Section 3. At the regular annual meeting, Directors shall be elected as follows: The State shall be divided into four districts, coinciding with the districts as set forth in the MQHA By-Laws, Article IV, Section 2, Paragraphs 2 and 3.

The members residing in each district shall elect the number of Directors necessary to maintain the ratio of Directors to members residing in a district. Such elected district Directors must be a member in good standing and residing in the district from which he is elected. No district may have more than one elected Director from any one county. Directors shall be elected for a term of three (3) years, or until his successor is elected.

The number of district Directors from each district with the right to vote at all Board meetings shall be established by the number of members residing therein. Such determination will depend on the

number of paid up members as of December 1 or the previous year. Hence, the number of Directors for 1999 will be based on the number of paid up members as of December 1, 1998. The ratio shall be:

1-10 members - entitled to 1 Director

11 - 20 members - entitled to 2 Directors

21 - 39 members - entitled to 3 Directors

40 - 49 members - entitled to 4 Directors

50 and above members - entitled to 5 Directors

The members residing in each district shall elect each their own Directors, who shall be residents of such district, for a term of three (3) years, or until his successor is elected. The persons so elected, together with the officers of the Association and all past Presidents shall constitute the Board of Directors. Any vacancy as a result of death or resignation of a Director shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors. The Directors shall meet annually at the same time as the regular annual meeting of members and more often if called by the President or the Vice-President or any ten members of the Association. Notice of any special meeting shall be given by direct mail to the Directors at least five (5) days before such meeting, and the Directors including the officers present shall constitute a quorum.

In the event any duly elected Director shall fail to attend or shall fail to vote at three (3) consecutive meetings of the Directors, then at the third such meeting those Directors present shall have the right to elect another member of the Association residing in the same district as the defaulting Director as a replacement for the defaulting Director, and the new Director shall have all the powers, during the unexpired term, as if he had been duly elected as otherwise herein provided.

**Section 3.** In addition to the Directors so elected, all past Presidents of the Association, so long as they meet membership requirements as stated in Article 2, Section 3, shall be Directors-at-Large.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Officers and Duties**

**Section 1.** Officers of the Association shall consist of a President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian-Reporter. Officers, with the exception of Treasurer, shall be elected by the general membership at the regular annual meeting for a term of one year or until their successors are elected.

All officers, with the exception of Treasurer, shall be elected from the membership, and shall be legal residents of the State of Mississippi.

A nominating committee shall place at least one name for each officer with the exception of Treasurer, in nomination. Other nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member provided the consent of the nominee has been secured and written notice of the nomination furnished to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee prior to the voting.

**Section 2.** President: The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors. He/She shall see that the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Association are enforced, and shall perform all other duties that may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors. He/She shall be ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.

**Section 3.** First Vice-President and Second Vice-President: In the absence of the President, the First Vice-President, and in his absence, the Second Vice-President, shall have the powers and shall perform the duties of the President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors. **\*\*\*Amended September 12, 2017 was amended to read: First Vice President: In the absence of the President, the First Vice-President shall have all the powers and shall perform all the duties of the President and other such duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.**

**Section 4.** Honorary Vice-President: The Office of Honorary Vice-President exists for the purpose of recognizing persons who may merit such honor by reason of distinguished service to the Association. Honorary Vice-President may be appointed by the President only with unanimous consent of the Board of Directors. They shall have the privilege of attending meetings of the Board and taking part in the discussions thereof, but shall not have the right to vote therein. Such appointment shall not exceed beyond the term of the President who made such appointment. **\*\*\* Amended September 12, 2017 to read: Second Vice-President shall have all the powers and shall perform the duties of the President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.**

**Section 5.** Recording Secretary: The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of all membership and Directors' meetings. He/she shall be the custodian for the safekeeping of all documents and records of the Association. He/she shall be ex-officio recording secretary of all committees appointed by the President of the Board of Directors. He/She shall make a report of his meetings, and shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.

**Section 6.** Corresponding Secretary: Corresponding Secretary shall be responsible for certain written corresponding duties designated by the President such as letters or thank you and appreciation notes.

**Section 7.** Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be the adult who is the Youth Advisor. He/She shall receive all money. He/She shall disburse the same only upon itemized demands and upon the order of the Board of Directors. He/She

shall account for all of the same by itemized statements in detail to each annual meeting of the members and to the Board of Directors when demanded. He/She shall be bonded. \*\*\* Amended September 12, 2017 to read: **The Treasurer shall be an adult who is appointed by the youth advisor. He/she shall disburse the same only itemized demands and upon the order of the Board of Directors. He/she shall account for all of the same itemized statements in detail in each annual meeting of the members and to the Board of Directors when demanded. He/she shall be bonded.**

**Section 8.** Historian-Reporter: The Historian-Reporter shall keep a scrapbook of the activities for the year of the members of MQHYA, and shall send reports of such activities to various journals.

**Section 9.** Delegate for American Quarter Horse Youth Association: One Delegate, as entitled by the Constitution of the AQHYA, for each twenty-five (25) paid up members, not to exceed a total of four (4) Delegates, shall be elected from the MQHYA Board of Directors to represent the MQHYA as Delegates to AQHYA.

**Section 10.** All vacancies in the offices of the Association shall be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired term and those appointed shall serve until the election and acceptance of their duly qualified successor.

**Amendments:**

January 13, 1996 - At the regular annual membership meeting Article I, Section I, was amended to read: The name of this association shall be: Mississippi Quarter Horse Youth Association, Inc.

