

# OQHA

Ohio Quarter Horse Association



**2024 OFFICIAL HANDBOOK**  
BY-LAWS | RULES | REGULATIONS

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# BY-LAWS THE OHIO QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION, INC.

## ARTICLE I

### NAME, MISSION AND LOCATION

**Section 1.** The Ohio Quarter Horse Association will, protect and promote the Quarter Horse and the interests of owners, breeders, exhibitors and enthusiasts. OQHA is committed to setting the standard in the equine industry by engaging equine enthusiasts through world-class competition, recreational activities, education and engagement of the next generation of participants and industry leaders.

**Section 2.** Place of business: The principal place of business shall be the OQHA Office, 6325 Quarter Horse Drive, Columbus, OH 43229. Phone: 614.505.7200

### **Section 3.** Whistleblower Policy

- (a) OQHA encourages complaints, reports or inquiries about illegal practices or serious violations of the association's policies, including illegal or improper conduct by the association itself, by its leadership, or by others on its behalf. Appropriate subjects to raise under this policy would include financial improprieties, accounting or audit matters, ethical violations, or other similar illegal or improper practices or policies.
- (b) OQHA prohibits retaliation by or on behalf of the association against officers, board members or volunteers for making good faith complaints, reports or inquiries under this policy or for participating in a review or investigation under this policy. This protection extends to those whose allegations are made in good faith but prove to be mistaken. OQHA reserves the right to take any appropriate action against persons who make bad faith, knowingly false, or vexatious complaints, reports or inquiries or who otherwise abuse this policy.
- (c) Complaints, reports or inquiries may be made under this policy on a confidential or anonymous basis. They should describe in detail the specific facts demonstrating the basis for the complaints, reports or inquiries. They should be directed to OQHA's President or; if that person is implicated in the complaint, report or inquiry, it should be directed to any officer of the association. OQHA will conduct a prompt, discreet and objective review or investigation. Officers, board members or volunteers must recognize that the association may be unable to fully evaluate a vague or general complaint, report or inquiry that is made anonymously.

## ARTICLE II

### MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1.** The association shall employ a Chief Executive Officer to manage the operations of the association and to perform other duties as delineated in an employment contract, negotiated at the time of hire. The procedure for dismissal will also be as described in the employment contract, negotiated at the time of hire.

**Section 2.** Memberships shall be of two categories: Annual members and Life members.

**Section 3.** Membership shall be open to any reliable person, firm or corporation, resident of any state, interested in promoting quarter horses registered by the American Quarter Horse Association. Any person, firm or corporation having joined this Association shall thereby become subject to the rules and by-laws then in force or later adopted by the Association, and shall be subject to expulsion from the organization as provided in these by-laws.

**Section 4.** When any person, firm or corporation as members of the Association shall be accused of any acts or practices which may be deemed just cause for expulsion from the Association, said person, firm or corporation shall be entitled to a full, fair and impartial public hearing before the Board of Directors of the organization where he shall be faced by his accuser or be permitted to examine all evidence offered in support of the charge by the accuser or others and where he shall be given full opportunity to refute such evidence, but upon being adjudged guilty of the practice as charged and worthy of expulsion by affirmative vote of a majority of the directors present, he shall forthwith be so expelled. Any expelled member may be reinstated with the approval of the Board of Directors.

**Section 5.** Life membership is open to any applicant meeting requirements in Section 2.

## ARTICLE III

### DUES AND MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Section 1.** Each partnership or association as well as each individual person or a corporation shall pay dues of **\$35.00** annually. Family memberships are available at a fee of **\$75.00**. A family membership includes parents and all youth age 18 years and younger residing in the same household. Life membership shall be **\$300.00** but no additional dues shall be assessed. Dues, eligibility and membership application for Ohio Quarter Horse Youth Association shall be governed by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Ohio Quarter Horse Youth Association.

**Section 2.** Application for membership must have fee attached and be submitted to the Ohio Quarter Horse Association Office.

**Section 3.** Membership will start January 1 (for all applications received on or before January 1) and be effective through December 31. After January 1, membership will start the day the application and fee are received in the OQHA office and/or it will start the day the show secretary, at an approved OQHA show, receives the application and fee and so notes on the application

the date received. Show management must return memberships to the OQHA office within three (3) business days after completion of the show. Application and fee for the current year must be received in the OQHA office by September 1st for voting privileges. It is the responsibility of the members to read all rules and to understand when the membership becomes effective.

**Section 4.** In cases of error in fees or application, the above membership starting dates will become effective the date the error is corrected.

**Section 5.** The rules of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association will be available online at the OQHA website. Members may request an official handbook by returning a self-addressed postcard that will be mailed with their membership card.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **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, who is not a member of the Ohio Quarter Horse Youth Association, shall be entitled to one vote. For voting privileges, a member in good standing is defined as one having paid dues for the membership just past of said year, one who has not been expelled, and one who is not a member of the OQHYA in the current year. No one may pay for the dues of others except one may pay for the dues of immediate family members.

**Section 2.** The regular annual meeting of the members shall be held at such time and place as may be fixed by resolution of the Board of Directors, but in any event, it shall be held prior to the 28th day of February in each and every year, for the purpose of electing officers and directors and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the meeting. Notice of the annual meeting shall be given by US mail, email or in the Ohio News to each member in good standing not less than ten (10) days nor more than sixty (60) days prior to the date of such meeting.

**Section 3.** 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 in his absence, by the First Vice President, or by a majority of the Board of Directors, or by notice signed by not less than fifty of the members then in good standing. Notice of each special meeting indicating briefly the object or objects thereof shall be given in the same manner as provided with respect to notice of the annual meetings.

**Section 4.** At any meeting of the members held in accordance with the foregoing provisions as to notice, the members attending such meeting, present in person **or virtual**, shall constitute a quorum of the members for all purposes unless the representation of a larger number shall be required by the Association's By-Laws and in that case the representation so required shall constitute a quorum. If any meeting is adjourned to another time and place, no further notice as to such adjourned meeting need be given other than by announcement at the meeting at which such adjournment is taken.

**Section 5.** Any officer of the Association may call the meeting of the members to order and may act as chairman of such meeting, precedence being given as follows: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and Treasurer. In the absence of such officers, members present may elect a chairman. The Secretary of the Association shall act as Secretary of all meetings of the members, but in his absence the Directors may appoint any person to act as Secretary of the meeting.

**Section 6.** In the matter of the election, all members of the association in good standing, as defined in Section 1 of Article IV, shall be provided an electronic ballot to the member's email as it appears on the records of the association. Members requesting a paper ballot must contact the office by December 1 prior to the election. Electronic voting will close ten (10) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

**Section 7.** The results of the elections for the officers and the Board of Directors, meaning the actual accounting records of the votes, will be **provided** to any member of the OQHA in the association's office during normal business hours **upon request**.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1.** The business and property of the Association shall be managed and controlled by the Board of Directors, President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and the Executive Committee. The Board of Directors shall consist of eighteen (18) members elected by the members of the Association. The number of the membership of the Board of Directors may be altered from time to time by amendment of these By-Laws but shall not be reduced below three (3).

**Section 2.** Elected Directors shall be divided into three (3) classes of six (6) members each. They shall hold office for three (3) years and until their successors are elected. Six (6) Directors shall be elected each year. The terms of the present Directors shall not be affected thereby. Any Director may succeed himself in such office.

**Section 3.** In addition to the Directors elected as above provided, the Executive Committee shall select five (5) ex-officio directors by the February meeting after the annual membership meeting, said ex-officio directors to serve for a term of one (1) year and to be considered for quorum purposes and to have the power to vote. These appointments must be confirmed by ballot by the general Board of Directors.

**Section 4.** All present and future Past Presidents of the Association shall be and become lifetime directors at large, with voting privileges; however, a past president must attend at least three prior regular meetings per year (a twelve-month period) in order to cast a vote, and he or she must be a dues-paying member and not be under suspension by the American Quarter Horse Association or the Ohio Quarter Horse Association.

**Section 5.** In the event a director, during his or her term is elected to the office of President or a Vice President, he or she upon taking office shall vacate his or her position as director and

a vacancy shall occur and such vacancy shall be filled pursuant to Section 6 of this Article.

**Section 6.** In case of any vacancy on the Board of Directors by death, resignation, disqualification, or other cause, the remaining Directors by affirmative vote of a majority thereof may elect a successor.

**Section 7.** Notification of the time and place of the regular monthly meeting of the Officers and Directors shall be given at least seven (7) days preceding the meeting date, provided, however, that an emergency meeting may be called if two-thirds (2/3) of the Officers and Directors are present and unanimously decide that the meeting be necessary.

**Section 8.** A majority of the number of membership-elected Directors plus five (5) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but if at any meeting of the Board there may be less than a quorum present, a majority of those present may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum shall be present. The act of a majority of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present is the act of the Board.

**Section 9.** At meetings of the Board of Directors, business shall be transacted in such order as the Board may determine, with the exception of the Annual Meeting. The order of business at the Annual Meeting will be as follows:

- Call to order (by the current sitting President)
- Read and approve minutes of prior year annual meeting
- All standing committees, President, Tri-Chairmen and Chief Executive Officer to report business of prior year.
- Old Business
- Election results
- Adjourn Annual Meeting
- Call to order in Executive Session with newly elected officer, directors and sitting directors.
- Identify vacancies created by the election and fill. Voting Privileges will be granted only to current year elected officers, directors and sitting directors.
- Elect an executive committee member to 3 year term.
- Executive committee meets, makes 5 appointed director recommendations and asks for ratification by board.
- Treasurer is elected.
- Corporate Secretary is appointed.
- New Business
- Motion to adjourn

**Section 10.** The written contracts of the Association shall be executed in behalf of the Association by the President or First Vice President, or Chief Executive Officer and attested by the Corporate Secretary.

**Section 11.** The Board of Directors shall have the power and authority to make, amend, repeal and enforce such rules and regulations, not contrary to law or the Certificate of Incorporation or these By-Laws, as they may deem expedient concerning the conduct, management and activities of the Association, the admission, classification, suspension and expulsion of members, removal of officers, the rules and regulations governing the procedure of such suspension and expulsion and removal, the

fixing and collecting of dues and fees, the conducting of shows, contests, exhibitions, races, sales and social functions and other details relating to the general purposes of the Association, all, however, subject to revision or amendment by the members at any membership meeting, provided the revision or amendment shall have been mailed to all members at least five (5) days in advance of the meeting.

Any changes in rules or regulations adopted during any year will be effective on January 1 of the following year, or at an earlier date should it appear imperative for the well-being of the Association, and the earlier effective date has been approved by a super majority (2/3 or 66%) of the Directors present at the meeting where the vote is called for. Membership will be notified of any rule or regulation changes prior to their implementation.

**Section 12.** Because important Association business is conducted at all regularly scheduled OQHA meetings, attendance and input from all Directors is expected and very important. As such, any yearly Congress Director Benefits will be earned once a Director has attended 4 regularly scheduled meetings from the February regular meeting (conducted after the annual meeting), through the September regular meeting.

**Section 13.** Executive Committee.

- (a) An Executive Committee shall be selected at the first meeting following the annual meeting of the Board of Directors in the fiscal year. Said Committee will consist of the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President and three other members of the Board of Directors. The three shall be selected by a majority vote. Members will be elected for three year terms, rotating one member off every year. The Second Vice President and the three other members of the Board of Directors may not hold the position of AAQH Congress Tri-Chairman for the current year. Any member may be removed for cause by affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board of Directors present at a regular monthly meeting. Vacancies shall be filled by the Board of Directors for the remainder of the term.
- (b) Organization: The President of the Association shall call a meeting of the Executive Committee as soon as possible after election, for the purpose of electing a chairman, who shall be a member other than the President of the Association, and such other officers as the Committee deems expedient.
- (c) Meetings, Duties and Powers: The Executive Committee shall meet whenever called by the President, the Vice President or by any member thereof, with reasonable notice given. A Quorum shall consist of three or more members. The Committee may act, without convening in meeting, by written resolution signed by all the members thereof and duly entered in the Committee's minutes. The Committee may select others to perform duties and may prescribe other rules and procedures at its discretion. The Executive Committee shall possess and exercise all the powers of the Board of Directors in matters considered



sufficiently urgent or of any emergency nature that could not or should not be reasonably delayed until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors; except that it shall not change the By-Laws, fill vacancies or authorize payment of or obligate the Association for any unreasonably large sum of money. The Executive Committee may be used in an advisory capacity, as a study group or in capacity deemed expedient by the Board of Directors. The Chairman of the Executive Committee shall record or cause to be recorded all the action of the Committee and make a full report to the Board of Directors at the meeting subsequent to the Committee meeting. The Board of Directors may accept or reject any part of the action of the Committee or rescind any agreement, or void any obligation considered to be not in the best interest of the Association.

**Section 14.** Honorary Directors. An individual who has served 25 accumulative years as a Director, at the expiration of his 25th year is eligible to receive the designation of Honorary Director. This designation is optional at the choosing of the eligible Director. An OQHA member may also be elected Honorary Director by vote of the Board through nomination by the Executive Committee. There are no quotas to be filled each year, nor is there a limit to the total number of Honorary Directorships bestowed. At least ten years service is mandatory for any Honorary Directors. Honorary Directors shall serve lifetime tenure with voting privileges, provided they meet the attendance requirements of regular directors. Also, if an Honorary Director meets voting requirements, he or she will be entitled to two Congress passes, a Congress jacket and cap, as long as regular directors also receive these items.

**Section 15.** Representatives of Ohio who are Directors of the American Quarter Horse Association shall be allowed to vote at any meeting which he attends.

**Section 16.** Nomination of the Officers and Directors for election at the annual meeting of the members shall be as follows: The nominating committee consisting of seven members shall be elected by the Board of Directors before the July meeting. Notice of this committee election shall be made in the agenda sent to the directors. The current Board of Directors, after hearing a report from the Nominating Committee, shall annually by the September Board meeting nominate a sufficient number of candidates for Directors and Officers as are to be elected; Persons nominated from the floor, after the report has been made, must have attended three (3) Director's meetings in the current year previous to running for office. A copy of these nominations shall be provided by mail, email or as provided in Ohio News to all members of the Association in good standing at least six (6) weeks prior to the annual meeting. Any member entitled to vote, by written declaration may nominate another member as a candidate for any of the elective director's position; such petition is to be endorsed by ten (10) members of the Association entitled to vote and which petition shall be mailed to the Corporate Secretary at the address of the OQHA Office. Anyone seeking an OQHA directorship by petition must have attended three (3)

directors' meetings in the year previous to running for office and has signed in with the recording secretary. Petition is to be received no later than November 15th prior to the annual meeting. Such nominations shall be added to the official ballot and shall be voted on by the membership.

**Section 17.** All members of the Board of Directors shall pay membership dues for the current year and in the event of the failure to do so, upon reasonable notice, shall be expelled from the Board and a vacancy created which will be filled pursuant to Section 6 of this Article.

**Section 18.** Any officer, director, or employee transacting business or entering into a contract with the Association shall disclose the proposed business or contract to the Board of Directors and the nature of the financial interest. Directors must approve the business relationship or contract before it becomes an agreement which is valid and binding upon the Association. Before approving any such business relationship or contract the Board shall note in the minutes that disclosure was received pursuant to this section. The affected officer, director, or employee shall abstain from the vote regarding such approval. This section applies to any business transaction or contract with an officer, or director, or the spouse of an officer or director, or any business entity (e.g., corporation, limited liability company, partnership, fictitious name, proprietorship or the like) in which an officer or director has a significant financial or controlling ownership interest. The following activities are specifically exempt from the disclosure requirement of the section: (a) horse show entries and related horse show expenses, (b) advertising in the OQHA Journal, and (c) commercial exhibition agreements at the Congress applicable to vendors in general. The purpose of this section is intended to avoid unfairness or the appearance of unfairness in the transacting of association business affairs. Nothing in this rule shall (a) be construed as a limitation or prohibition on any officer or director providing a competitive product or service to the association from which it may derive a benefit; or (b) require the affected officer, director, spouse, or business entity to disclose confidential or proprietary information regarding the proposed business transaction or contract. Approval upon disclosure is entrusted to the sound discretion of the Board.

**Section 19.** There will be the following Standing committees: Rules, State Futurity, Membership, Congress Steering, Annual Meeting, Grievance, Finance, Horse Show Advisory and Public Policy. The President will appoint the chairmen and approve any additional members to each standing committee. A committee may consist of only a chairman. A chairman may request additional names be added to his committee but only with the approval of the President. Each committee will report to and have actions approved by the Board of Directors. The Finance Committee, with the approval of the Executive Committee, will establish each committee's budget. A new committee can be formed at any time by a two-thirds vote of the Directors; the Finance Committee must recommend the budget for such committee. Any committee that two-thirds of the Board feels has been ineffective under two chairmen for three years or more may be abolished. The

President may form task forces or ad hoc committees at any time; however, their actions and/or recommendations must be referred to the committee of jurisdiction before reviewed by the Board of Directors. The Congress Tri-Chairmen Committee will consist of the President, the First Vice-President, and two Directors who are each elected to this responsibility for a three-year term. The Executive Vice-President will also serve on this committee. The Congress Tri-Chairmen Committee may act on any issue, contract, rule, or policy referring to the Congress; however, the Board of Directors can overturn any action of this Committee by a majority vote. This Congress Tri-Chairmen Committee will appoint the chairmen of various subcommittees with Congress responsibilities to serve on the Congress Steering Committee, and this Congress Tri-Chairmen Committee will approve any additional members to the Steering Committee. All Directors are to serve on at least one standing committee. In addition, all Directors are to serve on at least one subcommittee of the A.A.Q.H. Congress Steering Committee.

**Section 20.** If an Officer, Director, Tri-Chairman, or member of the Executive Committee resigns his position in order to assume a new area of responsibility as a different officer or committee member, when the second position is vacated, that official does not automatically return to his original position of responsibility. The board of directors will fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **OFFICERS AND DUTIES**

**Section 1.** The officers of the Association shall consist of President, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, a Corporate Secretary, and a Treasurer. The criteria for being a candidate for the office of President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President must include five completed years (60 months) of service out of the past eight years on the board of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association. All officers except the Corporate Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by a majority of the members casting votes at the election.

The procedure for the election of officers shall be as follows: Nominations for President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President, shall be made annually by the September Board meeting by the current Board of Directors, after hearing a report from the Nominating Committee. A copy of these nominations shall be provided by mail, email or as provided in Ohio News to all members of the Association in good standing at least six (6) weeks prior to the annual meeting. These nominations shall be voted on by the membership in an emailed ballot, and the candidate receiving the largest number of votes cast shall be elected.

The President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President shall hold office for one (1) year and until their successors are elected. The President, First and Second Vice Presidents may succeed themselves in office for a period of one year. The president shall appoint the Corporate Secretary, subject to approval of the Board of Directors, and such committee chairmen as he deems advisable. They shall hold office for one (1) year

and/or until their successors are appointed and approved. The Corporate Secretary may succeed himself in office.

Only Directors, elected Officers, Honorary Directors, and Past Presidents shall have the right to vote at meetings of the Board of Directors. The President may vote only in the case of a tie.

**Section 2.** President: The President of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors. He shall see that the Bylaws, 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 shall be ex-officio a member of all committees. He shall prepare a specific agenda for each meeting and submit it two weeks in advance to the directors by mail.

**Section 3.** Vice President: In the absence of the President, the First 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, and in the absence of the First Vice President, the Second Vice President shall so act.

**Section 4.** Corporate Secretary: The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all membership and Directors meetings. He shall make a report of membership and Directors meetings, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.

**Section 5.** Treasurer: The Treasurer selected by the Board of Directors shall exercise the normal duties of Treasurer, including the duties to receive and disburse funds of the Association, to maintain adequate records thereof and to prepare appropriate reports of such funds and disbursements for presentation to the Board of Directors and the membership. He shall hold office for one (1) year and/or until his successor is appointed and approved. The Treasurer may succeed himself in office.

The Board of Directors may also select one or more assistant Treasurers as they shall deem necessary who shall assist in handling the funds and records of such funds and who shall be accountable to the Treasurer and to the Board of Directors.

**Section 6.** Fiscal Year: This Association shall conduct its affairs on the calendar year basis, same to begin January 1 and ending on the last day of December of the same year.

**Section 7.** The Treasurer and all other Officers of the Association who handle and/or have access to the funds of the Association shall be bonded in an amount to be determined by the Board of Directors.

**Section 8.** Any Officer of the Association may be removed for cause by the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors present at a meeting called for such purpose. Written charges shall be served upon said Officer at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting of the Board at which removal proceedings are to be held, and he shall be permitted to attend such meeting and defend the charges against him.

**Section 9.** Vacancies occurring in any office, from any cause whatsoever shall be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired term thereof, except the First Vice President shall succeed to the Presidency if that office becomes vacant.

**Section 10.** All Officers shall pay membership dues for the

current year and in the event of the failure to do so, upon reasonable notice, shall be removed from office and a vacancy created which will be filled pursuant to Section 9 of this Article.

## **ARTICLE VII AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS**

**Section 1.** In September, it will be published that at the November meeting of OQHA the following will occur: On behalf of the OQHA Board of Directors, a letter will be sent to AQHA in December of each year automatically endorsing the incumbent AQHA National Directors unless two-thirds of the OQHA Board vote at the November OQHA Board of Directors' meeting to take new nominations from the floor.

## **ARTICLE VIII INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS AND OTHERS**

**Section 1.** Directors, officers and other persons specified in Section 1702.12 (E) of the Ohio Revised Code shall be indemnified to the full extent and in the manner specified in Section 1702.12 (E).

## **ARTICLE IX RATIFICATION OF RULES OF OHIO QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION**

**Section 1.** The Board of Directors shall have the right to ratify, amend or repeal all rules adopted by the Ohio Quarter Horse Youth Association.

## **ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** The Board of Directors and membership-elected officers shall have the power to make, amend and repeal the By-Laws of the Association by vote of a two-thirds majority of the Directors present at any regular or special meetings of the Board at which there is a quorum, subject to the right of the members to amend any such By-Laws at the annual meeting of members or at a special meeting of the members called for such purpose. The proposed change or amendment must be read at three (3) regular or special meetings before a final vote is made.

## **ARTICLE XI ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Section 1.** The business meetings of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association, Inc., shall be conducted under "Robert's Rules of Order Simplified."

## **ARTICLE XII OHIO POINT SYSTEM FOR ANNUAL AWARDS**

**Section 1.** Owner or owners and rider and/or handler all must be members of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association for the horse to receive points. The word owner as it is used on any occasion in this rule book denotes the person or organization whose name properly appears last on a horse's registration papers. If more

than one name appears in the ownership each owner must be a member in order for the horse to receive points. If a corporation is owner, it must be a member in order for the horse to receive points. If a partnership is owner, all partners must be members in order for the horse to receive points. If a farm name appears as owner, there must be a membership in the name of the farm in order for the horse to receive points. Points are to count from the date on which the owner or owners and rider and/or handler joined Ohio Quarter Horse Association by having his, her or its application and fee received at the address of the OQHA Office during regular office hours. Points will start the day the show secretary, at an approved OQHA show, receives the application and fee and so notes on the application the date received. Only members in good standing are eligible for points and awards. The winner of an award must be a member in good standing at the termination of the point year.

Amateurs and youth may show leased horses subject to the rules established by the American Quarter Horse Association. The lessee must be a member of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association for the horse to receive points.

**Section 2.** The point year shall be from February 15th through the final day of September. Points from the shows held on September 30th and October 1st when these shows are held in the split combined format, will count for state year-end points.

Subject to the provisions of the rules, any American Quarter Horse Association approved shows held in Ohio, in accordance with the Ohio point year are approved for points by the Ohio Quarter Horse Association, except those shows denied approval under rules adopted by the Board of Directors of OQHA.

OQHA will approve only two shows within the state on a particular day, including fairs and All-Youth shows, providing that one of the shows is an all Level 1 (novice) show or that two existing shows would fall on the same day due to calendar year change or extenuating circumstances. New shows will not be approved for points if held on the same day as an existing show unless the new show is an all Level 1 (novice) show. However, individual specialty classes that are held at overlapping shows may be approved for OQHA points if the classes are not held on the same day. If classes are held on the same day, the points will be approved for the classes held at the show with the most seniority. All Special Events, AQHA Introductory Shows, and new shows must request show approval from the OQHA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors of OQHA may deny or approve any show based on recommendations or findings of its Horse Show Advisory Committee.

To be approved for OQHA points, a show must offer all day fees of \$50 as an option for all Youth and Level 1 (novice) Youth classes. They must also offer all-day fees of \$50 as an option for all Amateur, Level 1 (novice) Amateur, and Select classes. Rookie and Intermediate classes are included in the \$50 fee. If a show offers Small Fry classes, the fee for this division is \$25 per show.

The Board of Directors may deny approval to any show and/or special event which does not agree to permit drug testing.

In addition, unless there is an express recommendation to the contrary by the Horse Show Advisory Committee of OQHA, the Board of Directors may deny future show and/or special event approval if the reporting of points and all requirements of AQHA and OQHA are not complied with in full.

**Section 3.** A judge may officiate at an OQHA show only once in the AQHYA qualifying period during the competition for state qualifying points to attend the AQHYA World Show, except in an emergency situation when no one else is available. The responsibility for enforcement of this rule rests with the shows' managements. The show manager contracting with a judge first will have his show approved for Ohio Points per show approval. A judge may judge a class only once during this qualifying period of time.

**Section 4.** The results of any approved show and/or special event must be electronically submitted to OQHA listing at least the top 9 horses, unless fewer than that number competed, and should be forwarded to the office of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association within three (3) business days after completion of the show or contest. Show management must return any OQHA memberships within three (3) business days after completion the show to the OQHA office. Any show management not meeting the three day deadline of sending show results to the OQHA office will be subject to non-approval of that show for OQHA points the following year.

**Section 5.** All classes approved for points by the American Quarter Horse Association are automatically approved for points by the Ohio Quarter Horse Association, so long as the show and/or special event is approved by OQHA under Section 2 above. A high point and reserve award will be given for all approved classes with the following reservations:

- (a) In order for a high point or reserve high point award to be given, exhibitor must have placed five (5) times in a given class during the year.
- (b) Exhibitors must accumulate a minimum of fifteen (15) points in the event.
- (c) Awards for junior and senior horses in registered reining, barrel race and poles shall be determined either by results of separate approved Jr. and Sr. classes at approved shows or by determining results of all age classes in those events at approved shows based on the age of the horse.
- (d) In the event of a tie in any Year End points, no ties will be broken and duplicate awards would be given for each tied placing. (Eg: Tie for 1st place, two 1st place awards will be given and the next awards would be 3rd place.)

**Section 6.** All points awarded on the placing and never the amount of money won. The system is as follows:

There will be thirty (30) points maximum awarded for each class. Points will be awarded on the basis of one (1) point for each horse the exhibitor defeats plus one (1) point for the exhibitor. The horse's total accumulated points during the point year shall count toward annual awards. Note - Points will be awarded to the first 9 places in each class.

In halter classes the Grand Champion of each sex division shall be awarded one (1) more point than any other horse awarded points in each sex division and the Reserve Champion shall be awarded one (1) point less than the Grand Champion. Weanling classes will not be counted when calculating Grand and Reserve Champion points. Grand and/or Reserve points for Halter classes will only be awarded if there are at least 3 horses shown in one of the sex classes. (Ex: There must be at least 3 horses shown in one of the Open Mare classes in order for Grand and/or Reserve points to be awarded for the Mares.)

**Section 7.** The Association shall give an award for the Horse of the Year. To be eligible a horse must have received at least 15 Ohio points in the halter division and must have earned Ohio points at 5 shows in halter and received at least 15 Ohio points in each of two different performance categories and must have earned Ohio points at 5 shows in each category. (All-Around categories are specified in the American Quarter Horse Association Rulebook.)

The Association shall also give an award to the halter horse accumulating the most halter points (horse must have earned Ohio points at 5 shows in halter). Reserve awards are also made in this category.

Ohio points in Level 1 (green) Events will NOT count toward the Horse of the Year.

The Association shall give a High Point award to the Level 1 (green) Horse accumulating the most performance Ohio points with at least 15 Ohio points in 2 or more different Level 1 (green) events (horse must have earned Ohio points at 5 shows in each event). A reserve award will also be awarded.

**Section 8.** If both registered and open cutting are held at one show, points will be awarded only in registered classes. If open cutting only is held points will be awarded in that class. Points for open cutting classes are based on the number of AQHA horses shown and will be given only to those classes held in conjunction with an American Quarter Horse Association approved show. If go-rounds and finals are held in cutting, only finals are to count for Ohio Quarter Horse Association points. Points awarded in cutting classes shall be calculated as provided for in Section 5 above.

**Section 9.** The Association shall give awards to the Amateur of the Year and to the Reserve Amateur of the Year. The winner shall be the individual accumulating the most points in the point year from all amateur divisions as determined on a one-horse-one-rider basis, the points to be calculated as provided for in Section 5 above, and provided, further, that ownership of the horse exhibited is to be in compliance with the AQHA Official Handbook and at least 15 points have been earned and the horse earned Ohio points 5 times in halter together with at least 15 points each in two different performance categories and the horse must have earned Ohio points 5 times in each category. In the event of a tie in any Year End points, no ties will be broken and duplicate awards would be given for each tied placing. (Eg: Tie for 1st place, two 1st place awards will be given and the next award would be 3rd place.)



The Association shall give awards to the Select Amateur of the Year and to the Reserve Select Amateur of the Year. The winner shall be the individual accumulating the most points in the point year from all select amateur divisions as determined on a one-horse one-rider basis, the points to be calculated as provided for in Section 5 above, and provided, further, that ownership of the horse exhibited is to be in compliance with the AQHA Official Handbook and at least 15 points have been earned and the horse earned Ohio points 5 times in halter together with at least 15 points each in two different performance categories and the horse must have earned Ohio points 5 times in each category. If the show bill does not offer a Select division of the Amateur class, the Amateur class will be used and the Select points tabulated for that class will be applied to the Select Amateur All Around.

High point Level 1 (novice) awards will be given to the top 6 placings in all approved Level 1 (novice) Amateur classes. Requirements will be the same as for the corresponding Amateur Division class.

**Section 10.** For the purpose of calculating OQHA year end points, in the event a Select Amateur class is combined with the Amateur class, OQHA will separate out the Select Amateur points for those select exhibitors who have a designation form on file prior to showing in said class. The Select designation will become effective when it is received in the OQHA office, or by the show secretary at any approved OQHA show, and will expire at the end of each show season. The Select Amateur will receive points based on total number of entries in the combined classes. The Select exhibitor must be entered in the Select class in order to be eligible for Select points. If the show bill does not offer a Select division of the Amateur class, there will be no Select points tabulated for that class.

**Section 11.** The Association will give awards to the High Point Level 1 Amateur of the Year and the Reserve Level 1 Amateur of the Year. The winner shall be the individual accumulating the most points in the point year from all Level 1 Amateur classes as determined on a one-horse one-rider basis, the points to be calculated as provided for in Section 5 above. Exhibitor must accumulate a minimum of 15 points in each event and must have placed 5 times in a given class during the year. 15 points must be earned in three different performance categories.

High Point Level 1 (novice) awards will be given to the top 6 placings in all approved Level 1 (novice) Amateur classes. Requirements will be the same as for the corresponding Amateur Division class.

**Section 12.** Level 1 Amateur Walk Trot. The Association will give a High Point Level 1 Amateur Walk Trot award to the exhibitor accumulating the most points in any & all designated Level 1 Amateur Walk Trot classes, and the second most points for Reserve High Point Level 1 Amateur Walk Trot award.

a. Points must be earned in a minimum of 3 classes must earn a minimum 15 points per class.

b. Points will be accumulated on a one horse/one rider basis.

c. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse however

the points earned with each horse will be compiled separately.

## **ARTICLE XIII**

### **OQHA Drug Test Program**

**Section 1.** In the interest of fairness to all exhibitors, this Association has a policy and program of testing for the presence of drugs in horses exhibited at shows held in this state whether such shows be approved by American Quarter Horse Association and/or Ohio Quarter Horse Association.

**Section 2.** The Drug Test policy and program as established by the Board of Directors of this Association is administered by the Drug Test Committee.

**Section 3.** In the event the testing laboratory determines a positive test result, said laboratory will notify the OQHA office by telephone of such positive test and the same day will notify by letter the OQHA office and also American Quarter Horse Association. In the event the OQHA office is notified by the testing laboratory of a positive test result, the OQHA office will then notify by telephone the exhibitor and/or owner of the horse and the American Quarter Horse Association of such positive test result which notice shall also include notice to the exhibitor and/or owner of temporary suspension from point-earning privileges in this state pending a hearing, such suspension to be effective immediately upon the giving of such notice. Such telephone notification shall be followed by written notice to the exhibitor and/or owner and A.Q.H.A. again including notice of temporary suspension of the exhibitor and/or owner from point-earning privileges pending a hearing, effective at the time of telephone notification.

**Section 4.** In the event the positive test has occurred in an A.Q.H.A. event, O.Q.H.A. shall not have a hearing until after A.Q.H.A. holds its hearing. In the event the positive test has occurred in an event not approved by A.Q.H.A., O.Q.H.A. shall hold a hearing within a reasonable time after being notified of the positive test by the laboratory.

**Section 5.** All Drug Rules of American Quarter Horse Association, not inconsistent with the matters contained in this Article XIII, are incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof as if fully rewritten herein.

## **ARTICLE XIV**

### **OQHA Scholarship Program**

**(See Ohio Quarter Horse Foundation for Scholarship Rules and Information)**

# OHIO QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS

## ARTICLE I

### NAME AND PURPOSE

**Section 1.** This organization shall be a division of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association, shall operate within the scope of the bylaws, rules and regulations of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association and the American Quarter Horse Youth Association and shall be named Ohio Quarter Horse Youth Association.

**Section 2.** The objectives and purposes of the Ohio Quarter Horse Youth Association, hereafter referred to as the OQHYA, shall be as follows:

- (a) To improve and promote the American Quarter Horse breed.
- (b) To improve and develop the capabilities of youth, both individually and through group participation, in the breeding, raising and exhibition of American Quarter Horses.
- (c) To develop and improve scholarship, leadership and community interest and participation of young horsemen.
- (d) To encourage high moral character, sportsmanship and clean living among all its members.
- (e) To establish a means whereby Junior members may work in conjunction with the Ohio Quarter Horse Association Youth Activities Committee.

**Section 2.** The objectives and purposes of the Ohio Quarter Horse Youth Association, hereafter referred to as the OQHYA, shall be as follows:

- (a) To improve and promote the American Quarter Horse breed.
- (b) To improve and develop the capabilities of youth, both individually and through group participation, in the breeding, raising and exhibition of American Quarter Horses.
- (c) To develop and improve scholarship, leadership and community interest and participation of young horsemen.
- (d) To encourage high moral character, sportsmanship and clean living among all its members.
- (e) To establish a means whereby Junior members may work in conjunction with the Ohio Quarter Horse Association Youth Activities Committee.

## ARTICLE II

### MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1.** Membership shall consist of any youth who has not passed his nineteenth birthday on January 1 of the current year. The age of the youth on January 1 shall be maintained throughout the entire year.

**Section 2.** Annual membership fee shall be **\$25.00** due January 1 of the calendar year; membership, points, and any requirements for AQHYA World Show Team and/or Ohio Congress

Youth Team to be effective when the application and fee is received in the OQHA office during regular office hours. Also membership, points, and any requirements for AQHYA World Show Team and/or Congress Youth Team to be effective the day the show secretary, at an approved OQHA show, receives the application and fee and so notes on the application the date received.

**Section 3.** In cases of error in fees or application the above membership starting dates will become effective the date the error is corrected.

**Section 4.** Membership in OQHYA grants all point earning and qualifying privileges of the OQHA.

Note: A youth may elect to be a member of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association as a Life member and have all the privileges. Voting privileges will follow the OQHYA and not follow the OQHA. If a youth is a Life member, dues shall not be assessed by O.Q.H.Y.A.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

**Section 1.** The business and property of the organization shall be managed and controlled by officers and directors.

**Section 2.** Officers: The officers of the Organization shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Reporter and will be elected by ballot from the membership annually. Candidates for President and Vice President must be at least 14 years old by January 1 of the year running for office. Candidates for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Reporter must have completed a minimum of twelve (12) months of service as a Director or Officer of the Ohio Quarter Horse Youth Association. The President and Vice President shall hold office for a period of one year and until their successors are elected. The President and Vice President may succeed themselves in office for a period of one year.

- (a) 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 officers and directors. The President shall appoint all committees of the association subject to the approval of the officers and directors. The President shall submit to the members annually at their meeting a report of the status of the association and its activities during the preceding year.
- (b) Vice President: Shall in the absence, disability or inability to act of the President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President and shall perform such other duties as the President shall from time to time prescribe.
- (c) Secretary: The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the members and of the officers and 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. He shall perform like duties for the committees when requested to do so.
- (d) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have responsibility of preparing a budget, report to all meetings of the association's expenditures in relation to the budget and

work under the guidance of the Treasurer of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association.

- (e) Reporter: Shall have the responsibility of reporting the activities of the Association and of the individual members of the Association to the Media Department of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association. The Reporter shall serve as historian of the Association and shall have and perform such other duties, authorities and responsibilities as may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors or the President.

**Section 3.** Directors: Shall exercise equal voting privileges with the Officers in managing the business and property of the OQHYA.

- (a) There shall be six (6) Directors elected by ballot from the membership who will serve a term of one year. The Executive Committee comprised of the 5 newly elected officers and advisors, will appoint up to six (6) additional Directors who will serve a term of one (1) year.
- (b) Vacancy: In case of a vacancy in the Board of Directors, the President shall appoint a successor to fill the unexpired term of the association's Directors.
- (c) Past Presidents shall serve as Directors during their membership in OQHYA.
- (d) All unelected officer candidates shall become honorary Directors for a period of one (1) year with full voting privileges.
- (e) If an officer or director misses two or more meetings in succession or a total of three, the matter will go before the youth board and advisors for consideration of dismissal.

**Section 4.** In the matter of the election of the Officers and the Directors, all members of the association in good standing, shall be provided an electronic ballot to the members email as it appears on the records of the association. Electronic voting will close ten (10) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

**Section 5.** All Old Business at the Annual Meeting shall be conducted by the outgoing Board of Officers and Directors. All issues included in Old Business shall be voted on by the outgoing Board of Officers and Directors. At which time the Directors shall be announced and the new Officers and Directors will then take over the running of the Annual Meeting. All New Business will be conducted by the new Officers and Directors. All issues included in New Business shall be voted on by the new Officers and Directors.

**Section 6.** Delegates to the Youth Excellence Seminar (YES) shall be as follows: The OQHYA President will be the first delegate; the OQHYA Vice President will be the second delegate; up to three additional delegates if needed will be chosen by the OQHYA officers, directors and the advisors.

**Section 7.** Candidates for national office must declare themselves to the OQHA Youth Advisor by the regular January meeting of the year in which they are interested in running. OQHA will designate criteria for the selection of the candidate(s) who will receive the financial support and the approval of the

OQHA. The OQHA shall announce their final decision no later than February 25.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **OHIO QUARTER HORSE YOUTH POINT SYSTEM**

**Section 1.** The Point System for annual awards will be generally the same point system as is used by Ohio Quarter Horse Association. Year-end awards will be presented to all Ohio youth members placing in the top 6 for each event in both 13 and under and 14-18 age groups, and Level 1 (novice) youth 18 and under provided they have earned points in at least five shows and accumulated at least fifteen points in an event. To earn Ohio Youth and/or Level 1 (novice) Youth points the owner(s) and rider and/or handler all must be members of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association for the horse to receive points.

- (a) In the event of a tie in any Year End points, no ties will be broken and duplicate awards would be given for each tied placing. (Eg: Tie for 1st place, two 1st place awards will be given and the next award would be 3rd place.)
- (b) High Point Level 1 (novice) Youth and Reserve High Point Level 1 (novice) Youth will be awarded to the Level 1 (novice) youth who earns the most points with one horse, one rider combination in Level 1 (novice) Youth classes.

**Section 2.** All Around Awards - A year end all around award will be given to the Ohio Youth Member who earns the most points with one horse in Youth Activity halter and performance classes. There will be all around and reserve awards for age groups - 13 & under and 14 - 18.

- (a) A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however, the points earned by the youth with each horse will be compiled separately.
- (b) Points must have been earned in halter and three or more performance events with a minimum of fifteen points earned in each of such events. Showmanship at Halter will be counted as a performance event. A youth must have earned Ohio points at least 5 times in halter and at least 5 times in each of the three or more performance events.
- (c) Ownership of the horse exhibited by the above youth is to be as required in the current edition of the Official Handbook of the American Quarter Horse Association.

**Section 3.** High Point Awards – The Association will give awards to the High Point Level 1 Youth of the Year and the Reserve Level 1 Youth of the Year. The winner shall be the individual accumulating the most points in the point year from all Level 1 Youth classes as determined on a one-horse one-rider basis, the points to be calculated as provided for in Section 5 above. Exhibitor must accumulate a minimum of 15 points in each event and must have placed 5 times in a given class during the year. 15 points must be earned in three different performance categories.

**ARTICLE V**  
**SELECTION OF AQHYA WORLD SHOW TEAM**  
**REPRESENTING**  
**OHIO QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION**

**Section 1.** The point system for selection of the AQHYA World Show Team to be as follows: There will be (30) points maximum awarded for each class. Points will be awarded on the basis of (1) point for each horse the exhibitor defeats plus one point for the exhibitor up to 9 places. The exhibitor's best 10 shows in the qualifying period will be counted from February 15th through May 31 inclusive. Points from the shows held on May 31st and June 1st when these shows are held in the split combined format, will count for team points.

In the case of all ties involving representatives for the AQHYA World Show, we will calculate additional shows beyond 10, one at a time until the tie is broken. If a tie still exists with respect to a particular class, the age factor will determine the representative, first by show age and then, if necessary, by actual calendar age, the older exhibitor to be chosen. Any youth qualifying for more than two events in the state shall be entered in the two events of his or her choice for the AQHYA World Show, which shall be in addition to any class for which he or she may be qualified nationally.

Points will be compiled on a one horse, one youth basis in all events except horsemanship, equitation and showmanship where points are accumulated for the event if more than one horse is shown during the qualifying period.

Ownership of the horse exhibited by the youth is to be as required in the current edition of the Official Handbook of the American Quarter Horse Association.

**Section 2.** To be a state qualified member of the AQHYA World Show Team the following requirements must be met:

- Place in a minimum of three shows.
  - Exhibitor must accumulate a minimum of 10 points in the event during the qualifying period for the AQHYA World Show Team.
  - Youth must attend at least two OQHYA board meetings between January 1 and July 1 of the current year.
  - Youth must reside in Ohio or have an official AQHA hardship.
  - Youth must be a current member of Ohio Quarter Horse Association in good standing for points and any requirements to count.
- (a) Current youth members interested in qualifying for a cattle event, working hunter, jumping, equitation over fences, hunter hack, stake race and any other classes not usually offered at regular shows or cannot meet the point requirement must declare their interest in competing at the AQHYA World Show on or before the date of February 15th, however, if such class or classes is/are offered three (3) or more times, participation in these classes will take precedence over the letter of declaration in determining who will be state representatives at the AQHYA World Show. This letter of declaration should be sent to OQHA via a verifiable source such as email or

certified mail with return receipt. OQHA will designate requirements to qualify for the above listed events.

- (b) The Ohio AQHYA World Show Team will be made up of any Ohio Youth who have met the national requirements or the state requirements to compete at the AQHYA World Show. The Ohio Quarter Horse Association may **give a stipend** to the AQHYA World Show for all Ohio World Show Team Members. **This stipend would be a fixed amount for all national and state qualified Ohio youth world show team members who have also met their required OQHYA criteria.** To be eligible to receive the stipend, youth are required to **be a current member in good standing with OQHA** and attend at least two OQHYA board meetings between January 1 and July 1 of the current year.
- (c) Youth qualified to represent Ohio at the AQHYA World Show through the specified requirements or by qualifying nationally for a particular class or classes may elect, at their own expense, to add a class or classes for which we do not have the allotted amount of participants. If there are more individuals wanting to add a class than there are spots available, the oldest individual would have priority with the final decision being determined by the youth advisor.
- (d) To participate on the OQHAAQHYA World Show Judging, Hippology, and Speech Teams, youth must be a current member of Ohio Quarter Horse Association in good standing for any requirements to count. Youth must attend at least two OQHYA board meetings between January 1 and July 1 of the current year. The OQHA may choose to give a stipend to World Show Youth Team Members to help with expenses.
- (e) Any youth going to the AQHYA World Show must have written approval from parent or guardian who will be responsible for the conduct of the youth.

**Section 3.** Team standings and year end standings will be published on the OQHA website.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **SELECTION OF OHIO CONGRESS YOUTH TEAM REPRESENTING OHIO QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION**

**Section 1.** The point system for selection of the Ohio Congress Youth Team to be as follows: There will be (30) points maximum awarded for each class. Points will be awarded on the basis of (1) point for each horse the exhibitor defeats plus one point for the exhibitor up to 9 places. The person's best 10 shows in the qualifying period will counted from February 15th through July 31 inclusive. Points from the shows held on July 31st and August 1st when these shows are held in the split combined format, will count for team points.

In the case of all ties involving representatives for the Ohio Congress Youth Team, we will calculate additional shows beyond 10, one at a time until the tie is broken. If a tie still exists with



respect to a particular class, the age factor will determine the representative, first by show age and then, if necessary, by actual calendar age, the older exhibitor to be chosen. Members of the Ohio Congress Youth Team shall be permitted to show in only one event in the NYATT.

Points will be compiled on a one horse, one youth basis in all events except horsemanship, showmanship and equitation where points are accumulated for the event if more than one horse is shown during the qualifying period.

Ownership of the horse exhibited by the youth is to be as required in the current edition of the Official Handbook of the American Quarter Horse Association.

**Section 2.** To be a member of the Ohio Congress Youth Team the following requirements must be met:

- Place in a minimum of three shows.
- Exhibitor must accumulate a minimum of 10 points in the event during the qualifying period for the Ohio Congress Youth Team.
- Youth must reside in Ohio or have an official AQHA hardship.
- Members of the Ohio Congress Youth Team shall be permitted to show only one entry in the same class/event in the NYATT. If, however, there is a vacancy on the team, and there is an existing team member who has met qualifications with another horse, that member may be invited to fill the vacancy in the same event with the other qualified horse.
- To participate on the OQHA Congress Youth Team youth are required to attend at least two OQHYA board meetings between January 1 and July 1 of the current year.
- Youth must be a current member of Ohio Quarter Horse Association in good standing for points and any requirements to count.

**Section 3.** To participate on the OQHA Congress Judging, Hippology, and Speech Teams, youth must be a current member of Ohio Quarter Horse Association in good standing for any requirements to count. Youth must attend at least two OQHYA board meetings between January 1 and July 1 of the current year.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **SMALL FRY PROGRAM**

The Ohio Quarter Horse Association offers high point award to members of the OQHYA for small fry and lead line classes.

1. In order for a high point or reserve high point award to be given, exhibitor must have placed five (5) times in a given class during the year.

2. Exhibitors must accumulate a minimum of fifteen (15) points in the event.

3. The class must be held as a part of an AQHA and OQHA approved show and the results reported to OQHA by the show secretary.

4. The class must be limited to exhibitor's 9 years of age

and younger.

5. No stallions are permitted.

6. The exhibitors in the class are prohibited from exhibiting in any three-gaited or contest class at the same show.

7. Exhibitors in this class are not eligible to show in Level 1 (novice), 11 & Under, 13 & Under, and/or 18 & Under equivalent class at the same show. (Small Fry Showmanship may not show in any other showmanship class at the same show.) Small Fry exhibitors will be allowed to show in AQHA Level 1 Walk Trot Division classes will not be included in the small fry high point year end award.

8. Gaits in the event to be limited to the walk and trot/jog.

9. Points can be accumulated only by members of OQHYA, and will be compiled on a one horse, one rider basis.

10. The classes will be operated as any other AQHA Level 1 (novice) Youth class.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **HIGH POINT SMALL FRY**

The Association will give a High Point Small Fry award to the exhibitor accumulating the most points in any & all designated Small Fry classes, and the second most points for Reserve High Point Small Fry award.

a. Exhibitor must accumulate a minimum of 15 points in each event and must have placed 5 times in a given class during the year.

b. Points must be earned in a minimum of 3 classes must earn a minimum 15 points per class.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Level 1 Youth Walk Trot**

The Association will give a High Point Level 1 Youth Walk Trot award to the exhibitor accumulating the most points in any & all designated Level 1 Youth Walk Trot classes, and the second most points for Reserve High Point Level 1 Youth Walk Trot award.

a. Points must be earned in a minimum of 3 classes must earn a minimum 15 points per class.

b. Points will be accumulated on a 1 horse/1 rider basis.

c. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse however the points earned with each horse will be compiled separately.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **LEAD LINE**

1. The OQHA offers a high point award to members of the OQHA Lead Line; these youth will be 6 years of age and younger. The leader of the horse must be 12 years of age or older.

2. Riders in the Lead Line are prohibited from exhibiting in any 3 Gaited Class, Contest Class, Performance or Small Fry Class at the same show.

3. The only gait allowed is the walk, and the rider may be asked to back the horse.

4. Rules #1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 9 of Article VII will apply.

# **BY-LAWS OF**

# OHIO AMATEUR QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION

## ARTICLE I

### NAME AND MISSION

The name of this organization shall be the Ohio Amateur Quarter Horse Association. Its object shall be to promote the American Quarter Horse, to improve and develop the capabilities of the amateur owner, both individually and through group participation, in the breeding, raising and exhibiting of the breed. This association shall further work in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association.

## ARTICLE II

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall consist of any person who has passed their nineteenth birthday and is a member of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association and who qualifies as an Amateur according to the rules of the American Quarter Horse Association.

## ARTICLE III

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Section 1.** The Officers of this organization shall be the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and News Reporter to be elected at the annual meeting for a term of (1) one year.

**Section 2.** An officer or director of the Ohio Amateur Quarter Horse Association must be an OQHA member in good standing on or before the date of the regular February meeting.

**Section 3.** There shall be twelve (12) directors. Elected directors shall be divided into three (3) classes of four (4) each. They shall hold office for three (3) years and until their successors are elected. Four (4) directors shall be elected each year. In addition, the Officers and Directors will appoint at least three (3) but no more than seven (7) directors by written ballot at the February meeting after the annual membership meeting, said ex-officio Directors to serve for a term of one (1) year and to be considered for quorum purposes and to have the power to vote.

**Section 4.** The retiring President shall automatically become a member of the Board, with voting privileges, for a term of as many years as his successor serves as President.

**Section 5.** Executive committee. An Executive Committee shall be selected at the first meeting of the Board of Directors in the fiscal year. Said Committee shall consist of the President and Vice President and three other members of the Board of Directors. The three shall be selected by a majority vote. Each member shall hold office for such term of one year or until his successor is elected. Any member may be removed for cause by affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board of Directors present at a regular monthly meeting. Vacancies shall be filled by the Board of Directors present at a regular monthly meeting. Vacancies shall be filled by the Board of Directors for the remainder of the term. In selection of Committee members,

consideration should be given to availability to attend meetings on short notice if necessary.

**Section 6.** All past Presidents and honorary directors will retain voting privileges as long as they meet the same requirements as a current director.

**Section 7.** The Officers and Directors shall exercise equal voting privileges in managing the business and property of the Ohio Amateur Quarter Horse Association.

**Section 8.** Any Officer or Director who misses a monthly amateur meeting, must call another Officer or Director to offer an adequate valid excuse. If no call is received the absence is considered unexcused.

**Section 9.** Each and/or any Director who is absent from two regular meetings without permission from the President or without adequate valid excuse may be placed on probation by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Directors voting on said issue or probation. A Director on probation must attend all remaining meetings. His/Her failure to do so without a just excuse will demand his/her immediate replacement by the board.

**Section 10.** The procedure for the election of officers shall be as follows: Nominations for Officers and Directors shall be made annually by the September board meeting by the current Board of Directors, after hearing a report from the Nominating Committee. In the matter of the election, of the Officers and Directors, all members of the association in good standing, shall be provided an electronic ballot to the members email as it appears on the records of the association. Electronic voting will close ten (10) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

**Section 11.** In the event a Director, during his or her term is elected to the office of President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer, he or she upon taking office shall vacate his or her position as Director and a vacancy shall occur and such vacancy shall be filled pursuant to Section 12 of this Article.

**Section 12.** In case of any vacancy on the Board of Directors by death, resignation, disqualification, or other cause, the remaining Directors by affirmative vote of a majority thereof may elect a successor.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **OFFICERS AND DUTIES**

**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 officers and directors. The President shall appoint all committees of the Association, subject to the approval of the officers and directors. The President shall submit to the members annually at their meeting a report of the status of the Association and its activities during the preceding year. The term of office is for one year.

**Section 2.** First Vice-President: The First Vice-President shall in the absence, disability or inability of the President to act, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President and shall perform such other duties as the President shall from time to time prescribe. In the absence of the First Vice-President the Second Vice-President shall so act.

**Section 3. Secretary:** The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the members and of the officers and 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. He shall perform like duties for the committees when requested to do so.

**Section 4. Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall have the responsibility of preparing a budget, report to all meetings the Association expenditures in relation to the budget and work under the guidance of the Treasurer of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association.

The Treasurer and all other officers of the Association who handle and/or have access to the funds of the Association shall be bonded in an amount to be determined by the Board of Directors.

**Section 5. News Reporter:** The News Reporter shall have the responsibility of reporting on the activities of the Association and of the individual members of the Association to the Ohio Quarter Horse Association News. The News Reporter shall serve as Historian of the Association and shall have and perform such other duties, authorities and responsibilities as may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors or the President.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **QUORUM**

A majority of the number of officers and directors present shall constitute a quorum necessary for the transaction of business.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **VOTING**

**Section 1.** Only directors and elected officers of this association shall have the right to propose or second any motion, and to vote at the regular meetings.

**Section 2.** The President or Chairperson may vote only in the case of a tie.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **AMENDMENTS**

The directors and officers shall have the power to make, amend and repeal the by-laws of the Association by vote of a majority present at any regular or special meeting, subject to the right of the members to amend any such by-laws at the annual meeting or at a special meeting of the membership called for such purpose.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **POINT SYSTEM**

The point system for annual year-end awards shall be the same as that used by the Ohio Quarter Horse Association.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **AMATEUR CLASSES**

**Section 1.** The Amateur classes to be recognized are those approved by the American Quarter Horse Association.

**Section 2.** All class requirements and regulations shall be

as stated in the official handbook of the American Quarter Horse Association.

# BY LAWS OHIO QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION

## ARTICLE I

### NAME

The name of this Association shall be Ohio Quarter Horse Racing Association, INC.

## ARTICLE II

### OBJECTS AND PURPOSES

The Objects and Purposes of this Association are as follows:

**Section 1.** To promote, advance and perpetuate the racing of quarter horses and the breeding of Quarter horses for racing in general, and particularly in Ohio, and surrounding areas through unified, cooperative and combined efforts and medias, including promotion and publicity directed to race tracks, racing officials, quarter horse breeders and owners, related groups and the general public.

**Section 2.** To bring together those individuals interested in racing quarter horses, breeding quarter horses for racing or the promotion of quarter horse racing.

**Section 3.** To assist racetracks and racing officials in holding quarter horse races.

**Section 4.** To promote and enhance interest in quarter horse racing and racing quarter horses in Ohio and surrounding areas.

## ARTICLE III

### MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1.** Membership in this Association shall be available to those individuals, firms and corporations interested in the purpose of this Association who qualify under and comply with these bylaws and such rules and regulations as may be established by the Association.

**Section 2.** The interest of each member shall be equal to that of any other, and no member shall acquire any interest which will entitle him/her to any greater voice, vote, authority or interest in the Association than any other member.

**Section 3.** No member shall be entitled to nor shall such member be paid any part of the accumulated surplus, assets or funds of the Association upon termination of his/her membership in this Association.

**Section 4.** Membership will start January 1 (for all Applications received on or before January 1) and will be effective through December 31. After January 1, membership will start the day the application and fee are received by the Treasurer or Racing Secretary. Application and fee for the current year must be received by such on or before September 1st for voting privileges at the Annual Meeting & Election of Officers. It is the responsibility of the members to read all rules and to understand when the membership becomes effective.

No one may pay for the dues of others except one may pay

for the dues of immediate family members. It is the responsibility of the members to read all rules and to understand when the membership becomes effective.

**Section 5.** Individual persons shall pay Annual dues in the amount of \$25 and will receive one (1) vote. Family memberships will be at a fee of \$40. A family membership includes parents and all youth (18 and younger and residing in the same household) and will receive two (2) votes. A Life membership in the Ohio Quarter Horse Racing Association may be obtained for \$150 per person (1 vote).

## **HONORARY DIRECTORS**

**Section A.** Candidates for this recognition shall be nominated by the Directors of the O.Q.H.R.A.

**Section B.** There are no quotas to be filled each year, nor is there a limit of the total number of Honorary Directorships bestowed.

**Section C.** Ten years service is mandatory.

**Section D.** Honorary Directors are automatically honored with Life Memberships.

**Section E.** An Honorary Director is allowed to vote at any meeting in which he/she is in attendance provided he/she has attended at least three prior regular meetings per year (a twelve-month period), and he or she is not under suspension to the American Quarter Horse Association or the Ohio Quarter Horse Association.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

**Section 1.** The offices of the Association shall be a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Reporter.

**Section 2.** The criteria for being a candidate for the office of President, Vice President and Treasurer must include 5 years of completed service on the board of The Ohio Quarter Horse Racing Association.

**Section 3.** The affairs of this Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of the officers named in the preceding Paragraph 1, and directors, all of which officers and directors shall be elected or appointed as herein provided from the membership of the Association.

**Section 4.** President, Vice-President, and Treasurer of the Association shall be elected at the annual meeting in February and shall serve one-year terms. Secretary, Youth Advisor and Point Secretary will be appointed by the President with the consent of the Board of Directors.

**Section 5.** Any member seeking a directors position must be a member in good standing of OQHRA for a period of one (1) year and have attended at least two (2) meetings throughout that year. Two (2) new directors shall be elected at each annual meeting of the Association, for a term of three (3) years.

**Section 6.** Vacancies appearing among the officers and directors of the Association may be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors. Officers and Directors so appointed shall serve out the un-expired term of their predecessors. Four (4) trustees,



with a one-year term may be appointed by the Board of Directors following the annual meeting.

**Section 7.** A quorum of five (5) members of the Board of Directors shall be present before the Board shall conduct business.

**Section 8.** The Board of Directors shall have the power to dismiss from his/her office or trusteeship any Board member who misses three (3) consecutive meetings without a valid excuse by the President or Vice-President.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** The annual meeting of the membership of this Association shall be held the date set by the Board of Directors each calendar year, at such hour and place as may be designated by notice given in advance to the membership by the Board of Directors. At such annual meetings, committee reports and a financial report showing the financial condition and operations of the Association shall be presented to the membership. At said meeting, a nominating committee selected by the Board of Directors shall submit nominations for elections to the offices and directorships, which must be filled for the following calendar year, and the general membership in good standing (as defined in Article III, section #4), shall have the right to make additional nominations at the time for such election.

**Section 2.** After nominations have been duly closed, elections to such offices and directorships shall be held.

**Section 3.** Special meeting of the membership and meeting of the Board of Directors may be called with the consent of three (3) members of the Board of Directors PROVIDED that the membership of the Association or the members of the Board of Directors, as the case may be, shall have been given adequate notice of the time and place of such meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**Section 1.** All owners must be members of the Ohio Quarter Horse Racing Association for the horse to receive points toward and/or be eligible for any yearly awards. The word "owner" as it is used on any occasion in this rulebook denotes the person or organization whose name properly appears last on a horse's registration papers. If more than one name appears in the ownership, each owner must be a member. If a corporation is owner, it must be a member in order for the horse to be eligible if a partnership is owner, all partners must be members in order for the horses to be eligible. If a farm name appears as owner, there must be a membership in the name of the farm in order for the horse to be eligible. Points are to count from the date on which the owner or owners joined the Ohio Quarter Horse Racing Association by having his/her or its application and fee received by the treasurer of the Ohio Quarter Horse Racing Association.

**Section 2.** Due to limited A.Q.H.A. Racing opportunities in the central Ohio area many quarter horse racing enthusiast do

not have an opportunity to participate in races which earn points for year end awards.

- 1) All A.Q.H.A. race points earned outside of Ohio will be counted as earned.
- 2) All A.Q.H.A. race points earned in the state of Ohio will be counted at 2 times the value earned.
- 3) All unapproved races which are approved by the Board of Directors will earn points on the following basis:

Races Under \$1000.00		Races Over \$1000.00	
1st	3 Points	1st	5 Points
2nd	2 Points	2nd	3 Points
3rd	1 Point	3rd	2 Points
		4th	1 Point

The unapproved races shall be run at an approved Fair Meet, or such pre-approved organized meet. These meets may be outside of Ohio such as the Indiana State Fair, etc... These must receive prior approval of the majority of the Board of Directors. All points will be reported to the Secretary at the end of each meet.

To be eligible for year-end awards the horse must be nominated by the owner as designated by the nominating committee. Said horse must run at least one OQHRA sponsored race to be eligible.

Races will be approved for Ohio points only on condition that the above rules are observed.

To be eligible for year-end awards the horse must be nominated by the owner to the appointed Point Secretary by December 31st of the race year.

Nominated horses will accumulate points from the date of transfer into an Ohio owners name.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **AWARDS**

**Section 1.** The Ohio Quarter Horse Racing Association will present yearly awards to the high point Ohio sired, foaled, or owned race horse in the following categories.

- a) 2-year-old high point
- b) 2-year-old reserve high point
- c) 3-year-old high point
- d) 3-year-old reserve high point
- e) Aged horse high point
- f) Aged horse reserve high point

Points shall be tabulated as laid out in Article VI for above awards. Awards will be presented in 2 categories (1) based on earnings as reported by AQHA and (2) based on AQHA points combined with Ohio points for the High Point 2 year old, 3 year old and Aged horse.

**Section 2.** The Ohio Quarter Horse Racing Association will present yearly "Horse of the Year" award. Eligible horses must be Ohio sired, owned, or foaled. Total points will be calculated for each eligible horse, using the top five horses in each age group consisting of 2-year-old, 3-year-olds, and 4-year-olds and up. These age categories will be figured separately for money won and total Ohio and AQHA race Points. Horse of the Year will be determined using the following formula. In the event of a tie, co-champion honors will be awarded:

- A. Money Won:
  - Highest money earner = 5 points
  - 2nd Highest money earner = 4 points
  - 3rd Highest money earner = 3 points
  - 4th Highest money earner = 2 points
  - 5th Highest money earner = 1 point
- B. Total AQHA race points and Ohio points:
  - Highest points earned = 5 points
  - 2nd Highest points earned = 4 points
  - 3rd Highest points earned = 3 points
  - 4th Highest points earned = 2 points
  - 5th Highest points earned = 1 point
- C. Non-Graded Futurity, Derby, Maturity, Championship, trials, allowance, maiden:
  - 3 points awarded for each WIN
  - 2 points awarded for each PLACE or SHOW
  - 1 point awarded for each QUALIFYING entry
- D. Graded Futurity, Derby, Maturity, and Championship placing:
  - 5 points awarded for each WIN
  - 4 points awarded for each PLACE
  - 3 points awarded for each SHOW
  - 2 points awarded for each 4th
  - 1 point awarded for each QUALIFYING entry (5th thru 10th)

**Section 3.** The Ohio Quarter Horse Racing Association shall present a yearly award to the "Leading Ohio Trainer" based on AQHA points. The trainer must be a resident of Ohio and a member of the Ohio Quarter Horse Racing Association. His or her accumulated race record on the date on which his or her application and fee for membership in the Ohio Quarter Horse Racing Association are received by the treasurer of said association.

**Section 4.** Awards will be made at the annual meeting in February for the proceeding year.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **AMENDMENT**

The Articles of this Association may be amended as provided by law. These Bylaws may be amended at any time by a majority of the members, in good standing (as defined in Article III, section #4) present at a meeting called for such purpose. PROVIDED that all of the membership of the Association shall have had adequate notice of the time, place and purpose of such meeting, and may be amended at the annual meeting of the Association by a majority of the members present.

As amended September 22, 2012



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