

# Eastern Mountain Ranch Horse Association By-Laws

## ARTICLE I

### Section A – Name

The name of this organization will be the Eastern Mountain Ranch Horse Association, Inc. (EMRHA).

### Section B – Purpose

The EMRHA is organized to encourage, promote, advertise, and develop the ranch type horse as a unique and excellent athlete. The Association will carry out the above purpose by conducting and supporting ranch horse activities, events and contests according to the rules of the American Ranch Horse Association (ARHA).

We will strive to offer friendly, fun, family-oriented events and shows where members can promote their horses, and earn points and recognition on a national level.

### Section C – Mission Statement

The mission of the EMRHA is to promote a safe, sane, all around versatile ranch type horse with athletic talent, brains, style and beauty in the eastern mountains.

To accomplish this goal we will promote ARHA shows, clinics and events to showcase these equine athletes and thereby educate and inform members and non-members of the qualities of these horses.

As the versatile ranch horse is the focus of our efforts, we must always care for our horses and all animals with the dignity and respect they deserve and thereby promote better horsemanship throughout our area of influence.

## ARTICLE II

### Section A – Membership

Membership will be open to all persons interested in the purpose of this association who abide by the EMRHA By-Laws and Rules. Membership is good for one calendar year. The calendar year for the association will be January 1 through December 31.

### Section B – Annual Dues

Each member of EMRHA will pay annual membership dues. The annual dues will become payable January 1 of each year. Said dues will be established on a yearly basis by the Officers and Board of Directors.

Annual dues will be due on application for membership. There will be five types of memberships.

1. Individual Membership: is restricted to one person over 18 years of age.
2. Family Membership: includes person requesting membership, his/her spouse and children 18 & under.
3. Youth Membership: is restricted to one person 18 years of age & under.
4. Family Lifetime Membership: lifetime memberships are non-transferable and includes husband, wife and children 18 & under. In the event of a death the survivor retains the lifetime membership. In the event of a divorce the membership will be retained in the persons name as agreed to by the parties or as ordered by the court. All changes must be approved by the Board of Directors and will require a \$10.00 reissue fee.
5. Individual Lifetime Membership: lifetime membership is non-transferable and is restricted to one person over 18 years of age.

#### Section D – Membership Fees

Annual Individual membership -\$15.00  
Annual Family membership - \$25.00  
Annual Youth membership - \$5.00  
Family Lifetime membership – \$150.00  
Individual Lifetime membership- \$100.00

#### Section E – Voting

Only current members in good standing with the EMRHA may vote on EMRHA business and only current members in good standing with both ARHA and EMRHA may vote on ARHA officers and business. Nominations will take place at the board meeting the month prior to the annual meeting. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the annual meeting.

Ballots for elections of officers will be sent out to current members who belong to both ARHA & EMRHA. Members who are unable to attend the annual meeting will be allowed to vote by returning the ballot by a designated date 10 days prior to the annual meeting. These votes will be tallied with the votes from the annual meeting.

Section F – Membership is a privilege, not a right. Membership or membership application, may be terminated or rejected by the Board of Directors for cause detrimental to the interest of EMRHA, its programs, policies and objectives, as determined by the Board of Directors.

### ARTICLE III

#### Section A - Officers

Officers will consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and the Charter Representative. The officers will be elected by the current members who belong

to both ARHA and EMRHA, for terms of two years. The elections will take place at the annual meeting to be held between November 1st and December 15th of each year. Officers may be elected to successive terms without limit. All officers must be current members in good standing with both ARHA and EMRHA. Open positions can be filled during the year for completion of current term.

Officers who miss two consecutive unexcused meetings will be subject to replacement by the Board of Directors.

#### Section B – Duties of Officers

**President** - Preside over all meetings of the association and Board of Directors.

Appoint all committees deemed necessary by the Board of Directors. Call all board and membership meetings as necessary. Sign, together with the Secretary and Treasurer, all contracts and obligations of the Association.

**Vice President** – Perform the duties requested of him/her by the President and/or Board of Directors. Have all the powers conferred on the President when for any cause the President is unable to act.

**Secretary** – Take minutes of all general and Directors meetings. Keep all records and correspondence of EMRHA.

**Treasurer** – Collect all monies due EMRHA and will have the care and custody of and responsibility for such monies. Deposit in the name of EMRHA, in such banks as the Directors designate, the monies of the Association. Keep proper books of account, showing the disposition of such funds as may pass through his/her hands. Make a financial report to the Board of Directors when requested.

**Charter Representative** – Is EMRHA's representative to ARHA. They are the communication link between EMRHA and ARHA. They must be able to attend the yearly national convention of ARHA

#### Section C - Board of Directors

The Board of Directors will consist of 13 members. The Officers of the Association and the Charter Representative will serve as Directors so long as they hold the office. Eight members will be elected by the current members who belong to both ARHA and EMRHA at the annual meeting for a term of two (2) years. One member will be elected to the Fundraising Chairperson position, one member will be elected to the Show Committee Chairperson position, one member will be elected to the Youth Advisor position and the other five members will be directors. Directors may serve successive terms without limit. All directors must be current members in good standing with both ARHA and EMRHA. Open positions can be filled during the year for completion of current term.

#### Section D - Duties of Directors

The Board of Directors will take whatever action is deemed necessary to carry out the primary purpose of EMRHA without membership vote when deemed necessary at the discretion of the Board. However the Board of Directors will not overturn a majority vote of the membership.

The Board of Directors will review policy issues affecting the Association and make recommendations to the general membership regarding these issues.

If the President and Vice President are absent or unable to act, the Board will designate one of its members to act as President and he/she will have full powers of the President.

The Board of Directors will have the power to appoint members to fill vacant or newly formed positions until the next regular annual meeting.

Directors who miss two consecutive unexcused meetings will be subject to replacement by the Board of Directors.

Directors must be notified of all meetings at least seven days before each meeting.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### Section A - Meetings:

Meetings will be held monthly, or as called by the President. Any member in good standing may attend. Only current members in good standing with the EMRHA may vote on EMRHA business and only current members in good standing with both ARHA and EMRHA may vote on ARHA officers and business. The annual meeting will be held between November 1<sup>st</sup> and December 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.

##### Section B - Liability:

EMRHA does not assume responsibility for safety of participants, guests, or other individuals at shows or other EMRHA sanctioned events.

#### ARTICLE V

Annual Report: There will be an annual report of the financial status and business affairs of EMRHA. The report will be given at each annual meeting. Such reports will be prepared and presented in whatever manner the Officers and Board of Directors deem advisable.

## ARTICLE VI

Amendments to the By-Laws: These By-Laws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new By-Laws adopted, by a two-thirds majority of the current members who belong to both ARHA and EMRHA, present at any regular or special membership meeting. Members must receive prior notice of the intent to alter, amend, repeal, or adopt new By-Laws at least 30 days prior to said meeting.

## ARTICLE VII

Dissolution – In the event of the dissolution of this Club/Association, any assets remaining after club liabilities have been met will be turned over to the American Ranch Horse Association. In such an event, a special meeting of the remaining members of EMRHA will be called with no less than thirty (30) days notice of said meeting.