

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. NAME

This organization shall be named Eastern Mountain Ranch Horse Association, Incorporated.

The official abbreviation will be EMRHA.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be to provide a charter and place to showcase and promote the abilities of the all around versatile ranch horse through events that are fun, affordable, and designed to improve both horse and rider in a positive atmosphere where honesty, personal growth and politeness towards fellow horsemen exists. Horses shall always be respected and riders shall promote the horsemanship and sportsmanship integrity so that the true western tradition is genuinely honored. All events, such as horse shows, trail rides and other social events shall promote the American Ranch Horse Association's mission to promote good horsemanship, sportsmanship, breeding, and the official registry of the Ranch Horse.

ARTICLE III. POLICIES

This organization shall have no interest in personal grievances of one member toward another and no discussion of this nature will be allowed at any meetings of the organization; likewise, no discussion of a political nature will be allowed.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall consist of breeders, owners, exhibitors, and anyone of good moral character interested in promoting the American Ranch Horse.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers shall be members, or become members, of the American Ranch Horse Association, to hold an office in a Charter Association. An officer is automatically a representative of the American Ranch Horse Association.

Section 2. All officers shall be selected from the membership and they shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be the Executive Committee, and be responsible for the routine administration and management of the organization. The duration of office shall be one calendar (1) year, from January 1, to December 31, or until their successors have been elected and have qualified.

Section 3. The officers, after routine nomination, shall be elected at the Annual meeting held in November each year. Election to be held prior to the banquet. Voting members are not required to attend the banquet. Officers will officially take office in December. They may be re-elected for additional terms. Elections shall be closed written ballots. Members must be nineteen (19) years old or over to be eligible to vote. A person receiving a majority of the votes cast for each office shall be deemed to have been elected.

ARTICLE VI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of both the Executive Committee and 3 Directors elected at Large from the membership who shall serve a term of 1 years each. 3 being elected each year to replace the 3 who have complete their 1 year terms. In addition to the above Directors, the outgoing President shall serve the following one (1) year term as Director-At-Large unless he or she has been nominated and elected to an office in the Executive Committee or as one (1) of the above mentioned Directors. The aforementioned being the Board of Directors shall meet at the call of the President and at least twice a year at a time and place set by him or her, one (1) such meeting to be held each calendar six (6) months.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Any proposed amendments to the variable parts of this constitution may be submitted in writing at any membership meeting of the organization. Such proposed amendments must be signed by three (3) members of the organization, in good standing, before being submitted to the meeting. It shall then be read to the membership, by the Secretary. After such notice, a copy of the proposed amendment shall be sent by the Secretary not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the next meeting to each member with notice of the next meeting, at which time the amendment shall be re-read and discussed, then voted upon. It shall become a part of the constitution, only if passed by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the eligible voting members present and voting at said meeting. Finalized changes should be submitted to ARHA within 30 days after change, subject to ARHA's approval. Non-variable (non changeable) portions of the Constitution or By Laws may not be altered in any fashion at any time.

BY-LAWS

The constitution lays down the principles of the organization, the by-laws concern chiefly the method of procedure rather than the basic principles. These by-laws are more easily amended than the constitution and their amendments need not in any way effect the aim or main purpose of the organization.

ARTICLE I. DUES *Section 1b Lifetime dues shall be:*

Section 1. The annual dues of the association shall be:

| | |
|---|----------|
| Youth (18 years of age and under) | \$ 15.00 |
| Amateur (19 years and older)..... | \$ 30.00 |
| Family (husband, wife, children)..... | \$ 40.00 |
| Individual..... | \$ 30.00 |

The annual dues shall be on a calendar year basis.

Section 2. Annual dues become due and payable on January 1 of the year of membership. Members not paid in full by March 1, will be declared delinquent and removed from the good standing membership roster. Members declared delinquent shall not be permitted to vote or participate in the organization's business.

Section 3. Any member who has been dropped from the active membership roll for any reason, in order to become reinstated, shall make a regular application for membership and pay appropriate membership dues.

Section 4. All members shall be notified through either the Charter Newsletter or by a specified notification from the secretary, of the time and place of the meeting at least one (1) week, or more, when especially provided for.

Section 5. The interest of any member in the property or money of the organization ceases with termination of his membership.

Section 6. All dues and membership application forms are to be submitted to the Treasurer.

Section 7. Dues paid after November 1 will carry over for the following year with voting privileges for the forthcoming year only.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Applicants for membership shall be submitted to the treasurer upon receipt of application and dues.

Section 2. All new members will be acknowledged at the next meeting following the receipt of their application and dues.

Section 3. Any member in good standing may file charges against any other member for conduct likely, in his or her opinion, to endanger the welfare or character of the organization. The charge must be in writing and the accused must be given thirty (30) days time in which to prepare and present his or her defense. After all matters are considered, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership present and voting will suffice to expel a proven guilty member. Suspension from ARHA is automatic suspension from any charter.

Section 4. Voting privileges are restricted to members holding either an ARHA/Charter Amateur, Individual, or Family card and must be 19 years or over to vote. Members must be present to vote. No PROXY voting within the Family. Both husband and wife have one vote each from the membership.

ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors and the membership. He or she shall exercise general supervision and management over all affairs of the organization and shall serve as an Ex-Officio member of all standing committees, who may vote only to break a tie therein, except the Nominating Committee.

Section 2. Vice President: The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President. He or she shall be the chairman of the Finance Committee and insure submission of the Annual Budget to the Board of Directors. He or she shall present the approved budget to the January meeting for ratification.

Section 3. Secretary: The Secretary shall: 1. Cause to be kept and maintained the minutes of all meetings of the organization, standing committees, Executive Committee and Board of Directors. These minutes shall be an accurate and official record of all business transacted. 2. Be custodian of all association records including monthly financial reports of the Treasurer. 3. Cause to be kept and maintained, accurately a roster showing names, addresses, position held in organization of each active member. A Copy of this roster will be furnished to the American Ranch Horse Association after November 1, and not later than November 30, of each year. 4. Cause to prepare all correspondence, reports and routine business records of and for the organization. 5. Notify each member of all regular meetings, special meetings, social activities, likewise send out notices of Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings.

ARTICLE IV. DIRECTORS

Section 1. Election and Term of office: The 3 Directors shall hold office for 1 years. In addition to the above directors, the outgoing President shall serve following one (1) year term as Director-At-Large unless he or she has been nominated to an office in the Executive Committee or as one of the 3 above mentioned Directors. A Director, upon being nominated and elected to office in the Executive Committee will be replaced by regular ballot and the newly elected Director will fill the unexpired term of the Director he or she will be replacing.

Section 2. Duties of the Board of Directors: The Board of Directors shall be the policy-making body of the organization and act upon all important issues brought before the board by the Executive Committee. Their decision is final unless vetoed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at a regular meeting. The Board of Directors shall approve the Annual Budget submitted by the Finance Committee and require an Audit of the Financial Records and Assets of the organization no more than two (2) months prior to the January meeting. The reading at the January meeting to be for ratification.

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

Committees other than standing committees shall be appointed and charged with responsibilities by the President.

ARTICLE VI. STANDING COMMITTEES

There shall be four (4) standing committees, the Chairman of which will be appointed by the President at the January meeting. The Committees and their responsibilities are:

Section 1. Nominating Committee: This committee shall consist of a Chairman appointed by the President and at least two (2) members appointed by the Chairman. The committee will meet on call of the chairman and will be constantly on the alert for potential officer material with membership. At the November meeting, the committee will submit a slate of candidates with at least two (2) qualified nominations for each office, including the members of the Board of Directors. The presentation of this slate does not preclude nominations from the floor.

Section 2. Events Committee: This committee will consist of a Chairman appointed by the President and at least two (2) members appointed by the Chairman. The committee shall meet at the call of the Chairman and prepare a recommended program of events to be sponsored and managed by this organization for each month of the calendar year. The recommended program will be presented to the Executive Committee in January. The Executive Committee will review the program for presentation to the majority vote. Such program should include, but are not limited to, the establishment of appropriate booths at fairs, horse shows, and other related activities.

Section 3. Membership Committee: This committee shall consist of a Chairman appointed by the President and at least two (2) other members appointed by the Chairman. The committee shall meet at the call of the Chairman and shall publish eligibility requirements for membership consistent with the purpose of this organization. The committee shall plan and execute a program for actively promoting the membership among those persons considered eligible for membership.

Section 4. Finance Committee: This committee shall consist of a Chairman who is the Vice President of the organization and two (2) members appointed by the Chairman, one of whom shall be the Treasurer of the organization. The Finance Committee shall prepare an annual budget for the following fiscal year for presentation to the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors prior to the meeting in January. This budget, when approved by the Board of Directors, will be the plan for managing all assets of this organization. The Finance Committee shall cause to be held each year prior to the January meeting, a comprehensive audit and inventory of all financial records and assets of the organization.

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

The organization shall meet a minimum of 2 times a year.

Section 1. The regular November meeting shall be the Annual Meeting, at which time the election of Officers will take place. Voting members are not required to attend the meeting. During the Annual Meeting the membership will hear reports from all of the current officers and standing committees. The newly elected President is to hold a meeting of the old and newly elected officers and Directors early in December at which time the old officers will turn over all records to the newly elected officers.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee and/or the Board of Directors at such time as though advisable. Such meetings may not supersede regular meetings except when especially provided for.

ARTICLE VIII. QUORUM

The members present at any membership meeting constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE IX. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business at all meetings of the organization shall be as follows:

1. Meeting called to order
2. Roll Call
3. Reading of the Minutes of previous meetings
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Committee Chairman Reports
6. Reading of Communications
7. Unfinished Business
8. New Business
9. Program
10. Adjournment

ARTICLE X. RULES OF ORDER

In the event that any part of this constitution should conflict with rules and regulations of the American Ranch Horse Association, their rules and regulations shall prevail. This organization will govern its procedure by "Roberts Rules of Order, Revised" in all points not covered herein or provided by the American Ranch Horse Association Rule Book, a copy of which shall be available at all times.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

Any amendment to these by-laws may be proposed at any regular meeting. It shall be approved by a majority of those present and it will be voted on at the following meeting.