

THE ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION OF MASSACHUSETTS
BY-LAWS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1995

ARTICLE I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Arabian Horse Association of Massachusetts. It shall be a non-profit organization in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

ARTICLE II – Purpose

The purposes of this organization are as follows: To promote the Arabian breed of horse; to encourage the raising, using and exhibiting of Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arab horses in Massachusetts and elsewhere. And for these purposes, to sponsor exhibitions of such horses; to acquire, by purchase or otherwise, or lease or rent real and personal property, not in excess of the amount permitted by law, as may be necessary or convenient as incidental in the purposes of the organization, and to sell and dispose of the same.

ARTICLE III – Membership

- A. Individual Membership is open to any person who owns a purebred or half-bred Arabian horse, or is interested in the Arabian horse. Individual membership may be taken in the name of husband or wife.
- B. Family Membership is open to any persons who own a purebred or half-bred Arabian horse, or are interested in the Arabian horse, and is to include all members of the family, including children under 18 years of age.
- C. Junior Membership is open to any person under the age of 18 who owns a purebred or half-bred Arabian horse or is interested in the Arabian horse.
- D. Honorary Membership for Life may be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors for any person performing an outstanding service to the Association or for the Arabian horse. This membership shall carry all of the privileges of an Individual Member with no annual dues assessment.

Any member who acts in a manner termed prejudicial to the best interest of the Association may be suspended by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Board of Directors after a proper hearing. Ten (10) days notice of said hearing shall be given in writing to the accused person who may attend each hearing in his own defense or not, at his option, and who may bring witnesses, and who shall have the right to be represented by legal counsel or by some other individual with a “power of attorney” or proxy.

If found guilty, the accused shall be termed not in good standing and be suspended from membership, committees, or office.

ARTICLE IV – Voting

Each individual member shall have one (1) vote. Each family membership shall carry not more than two (2) votes. Voting shall be in accordance with ARTICLE VIII or in person. Junior membership shall carry no vote. Junior members may attend meetings and voice opinions, and shall receive all mailings and have all other privileges of membership.

ARTICLE V – Dues

Dues are based on a calendar year and are payable January 1 of each year. They shall be payable in advance to the Treasurer, and any member sixty (60) days in arrears, after notification by the Treasurer, may be dropped from the rolls of the Association. Members joining in the last quarter of the year shall pay full dues which shall be applied to the next year. Dues will be set by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors and will be established or left constant during the official September Board meeting so that they may be announced to the membership prior to the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI – Assessments

A special assessment may be levied by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at any regular meeting, in an amount not to exceed ten dollars (\$10.00) per vote per year. Members shall be notified in writing four (4) weeks prior to the meeting, that a vote on an assessment will be taken. The sole penalty for non-payment of such assessment shall be forfeiture of membership, and no action may be brought for the collection of any such assessment. Junior members shall not be assessed.

ARTICLE VII – Officers

The officers of the organization shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary (Clerk), Treasurer, Membership Chairperson, and the said officers shall hold office for one (1) year, or until their successors are elected by a majority vote of the membership at the Annual Meeting. Any vacancy in any office shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

The duties of the said officers shall be those usually exercised by corporate officials with like designations.

ARTICLE VIII – Board of Directors

The property, business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors, which shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary (Clerk), Treasurer, Membership Chairperson and five Directors at Large.

The Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Members, for a term of one year, and shall hold office until their successors have qualified.

Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Directors.

The Board of Directors shall meet not less than four (4) times per year, at such times and places as may be designated by the President. Ten (10) days written notice shall be given to each Director of all regular meetings of the Board of Directors. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President, or by any three Directors, by registered mail, notice sent to the address of each Director shown on the books of the organization at least seven (7) days prior to the date of such meeting, but such a meeting called by telephone shall be legal without other notice if all Directors waive notice thereof in writing prior to the beginning of such meeting.

A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

The Board of Directors shall fix its own rules of procedure. Any Directors who cannot serve regularly may be asked to resign if he or she fails to attend two (2) consecutive Board meetings without adequate reason. If any Director cannot attend a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board, he or she must notify the President at least twenty-four (24) hours before the meeting, thus permitting the President to know in advance whether or not a quorum will be in attendance.

A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE IX – Delegates to the Arabian Hoarse Association

Any delegate to the Arabian Horse Association must be a regular voting member of both AHAM and AHA and have dues paid as of July 1 of the year in which he or she is to attend. The delegate(s) and alternate(s) shall be appointed through a majority vote of the Board of Directors and registered with AHA on an annual basis.

ARTICLE X – Meetings

The Annual Meeting of the members shall be held within 30 days of the end of the fiscal year (Jan – Dec 31). The date and place of the meeting is to be designated by the

Secretary (Clerk) in written notices mailed to the members at least then (10) days prior to the meeting.

Ten (10) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE XI – Elections

The election of Officers and Directors shall be by written ballot of voting members present at the Annual Meeting. A nominating committee shall be appointed by the President prior to the Annual Meeting and charged with the task of presenting at least one candidate for each office. After presenting the committee's nominations, the President shall then accept nominations from the floor. The election shall then proceed, office by office. The President shall appoint a committee of Judges of Election whose duty shall be to count the ballots and announce the results of the election to the members during the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE XII – Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended, altered, changed, added to or repealed by the affirmative vote of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the registered voting membership. If the vote is to be performed by mail, the Secretary (Clerk) of the Association shall be required to send a copy of the proposed By-Law change(s), and a ballot, to each registered voting member. The voting membership shall have a period not less than thirty days nor greater than sixty (60) days from the date of the postmark of the ballot within which to vote upon such change(s) by returning one ballot to the Secretary (Clerk). If the vote is to be performed at any regular or special meeting of the members, proper notice of such meeting shall be mailed to the membership of the Association by the Secretary (Clerk) at least thirty (30) days prior to such meeting. Said change(s) must be approved by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the registered voting membership to become enacted.

ARTICLE XIII – Dissolution

The Organization may be dissolved at any time, wither at a special or annual meeting, by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members in good standing present and entitled to vote in accordance with the provision of the By-Laws.

Upon dissolution, all assets remaining after payment of or provision for all liabilities shall be turned over to an organization, preferably Arabian horse oriented, that meets the qualifications of a non-profit organization according to the Internal Revenue Service.

ARTICLE XIV – Affiliation

The Arabian Horse Association of Massachusetts may affiliate with a horse oriented publication upon a majority vote of the registered members (a) who are present at the Annual Meeting or (b) who have voted by mail. If the vote of the membership is taken by mail, the provisions described in Article XII for notification will apply. The period of affiliation will be that prescribed in the publication's proposal. Renewal, change in affiliation, or termination of affiliation shall be determined by the vote of the membership as described in this article taken prior to the end of the period of affiliation. The Association may incorporate no more than the actual cost, to the club, of each subscription into the annual dues. In the case of a family membership, only one subscription will be provided despite the provision for two (2) votes for a family membership. Copies of the publication's proposal(s) shall be provided to the registered voting membership not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting or as prescribed in Article XII.