

BYLAWS

DIXIE GULF ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I **INCORPORATION**

Pursuant to its Articles of Incorporation, under the laws of the State of Florida, the name of this organization shall be the Dixie Gulf Arabian Horse Association (DGAHA), and shall be a non-profit corporation. The organization will hereinafter be referred to as Association.

ARTICLE II **OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES**

The objects and purposes of the Association shall be those stated in Article II of its Articles on incorporation and more specifically to:

1. Foster and encourage good relations between the Association members and other associations especially and specifically between the Arabian Horse Association (AHA), and the United States Equestrian Federation Inc (USEF).
2. Aid and encourage the breeding, exhibiting, use and perpetuation of Arabian horses.
3. Formulate publicity and educational programs and other activities in the interest of Arabian horse owners and enthusiasts.
4. Promote, encourage, and stimulate popular interest in the many outstanding uses and qualities of the Arabian horse.
5. Do any and all things appropriate to accomplish the objectives and purposes as stated herein and as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE III **MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: Application

Application for membership shall be on such form and in such manner as may be determined by the Board of Directors and shall be accompanied by payment of the dues for the year of application.

Section 2: Annual Dues

Each Member shall pay annual dues on or before the date of their initial joining Dixie Gulf or at such time as the Board of Directors shall determine. Members shall pay such further dues and assessments as may be determined by the Board of Directors. Dues are for a period of one year or twelve month from the initial date of membership.

Section 3: Basis of Revoking Membership

After investigation, if, in the opinion of a majority of the Board of Directors, a membership should be revoked, the Board shall so recommend to the President. The President shall then

place it on the floor at a Regular Meeting. A two-thirds majority vote of the members present at the meeting will be necessary or revoke a membership.

Section 4: Full Member

- (a) A Full member has both Association and AHA privileges.
- (b) A Full member has voting privileges on all issues brought before the Association
- (c) Dues shall be the prevailing dues plus the AHA assessment

Section 5: Associate Member

- (a) Associate Membership is non-voting for all AHA issues, is not subject to AHA dues.
- (b) *May* hold an office or be a director, if a full member of AHA.
- (c) They shall have the right to vote for club officers, vote on all issues regarding club business and functions, chair a committee, and participate in the High Point and Futurity programs.

Section 6: Youth Member

- (a) A Youth member has both Association and AHA privileges.
- (b) A Youth member has no voting privileges.
- (c) Dues shall be the AHA Youth assessment.
- (d) Youth may elect to be Associate Members but will not have voting privileges.

Section 7: Complimentary Member

- (a) Complimentary Members may be nominated by any member in good standing of the Association and approved by majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- (b) Complimentary Members will have no voting privileges, nor privileges AHA, but will be entitled to participate in all Association activities and will receive the Association Newsletter.
- (c) A majority vote of the Board of directors will remove a Complimentary Member.

ARTICLE IV
CORPORATE POWERS

Section 1: Division of Powers

The Corporate Powers of the Association shall be administered as provided in this Article.

Section 2: Powers of the Annual Meeting

- (a) Exclusive Powers
The Annual Meeting shall have exclusive power with the exception of 1979 to enact, repeal and amend by-laws, amend the Articles of Incorporation, and dissolve the Corporation.
- (b) Others Powers
The Annual Meeting may, by resolution, take any other action not inconsistent with law, with the Articles of Incorporation or with the by-laws.

Section 3: Powers of the Board of Directors

- (a) Enumeration
The Board of Directors shall have powers to take any action not inconsistent with laws, with the Articles of Incorporation, with the by-laws, or with any duly enacted resolution of the annual meeting.
- (b) The Board of Directors may delegate to any Committee or Officer any portion of its power, subject to any limitation which it may see fit to impose.

(c) The Board of Directors shall not obligate the club for more than \$100 indebtedness without the appropriate vote of the current active membership.

Section 4: Powers of the Officers

The Officers of the Association shall have those powers delegated to them by those by-laws and such additional powers as may be delegated at the Annual Meeting or by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V
ANNUAL MEETING

Section 1: Date of Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the members shall be held on the second Sunday in January of each year or some other time within the month of January as determined by the Board of Directors should they deem a change of date necessary. At least twenty(thirty) days prior to the meeting, proper notice should be sent by mail or email to the membership of this Association by the Secretary. At the ANNUAL MEETING the following business will be conducted:

- (1) Presentation and passage of Amendments to the by-laws (as hereinafter set forth)
- (2) Submission of Annual Reports of all Committees
- (3) Nomination and Election of Directors
- (4) Nomination and Election of Officers according to the by-laws
- (5) Nomination and Election of Nominating Committee for the succeeding year
- (6) All other business appropriate to come before the Annual Meeting.

Section 2: Voting Membership

- (a) A Voting Member is a Full or Associate Member with annual dues paid before the Annual Meeting is called to Order.
- (b) A current Voting Membership Roll prepared by the Association Secretary shall be on hand at the Annual Meeting.
- (c) Upon entering the Annual Meeting, each person whose name appears on the Voting Membership Roll shall be issued a "red-ribbon badge" as a means of identification.

Section 3: Procedures

- (a) Procedures to be followed during the Annual Meeting are found in Article XI General provisions, Section 1 and 2.
- (b) Those voting members present at the Annual Meeting shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

Section 4: Voting

- (a) Special Measures
The favorable vote of two-thirds of the votes cast shall be required to: enact, repeal, or amend a by-law; Amend the Articles of Incorporation; Dissolve the Corporation.

(b) Ordinary Measures A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for the election of an Officer or Director or for the adoption of any measure.

(c) Proxies or Mailed Ballot

Voting by proxy or by mailed ballot shall not be permitted.

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Section 5: **Amendments of by-laws**

(a) An amendment to a by-law must be submitted in writing to the President, and it may be submitted by any member in good standing of the Association.

(b) A least twenty (*thirty*) days before the Regular Meeting proper notice shall be sent to the membership of this Association by the Secretary.

ARTICLE VI **REGULAR MEETINGS**

Section 1: **Regular Meetings**

Regular Meetings shall be called by the President no less than every other month. Notice of the Regular Meetings is to be sent to the membership through the Association Newsletter.

Section 2: **Procedures**

(a) Procedures to be followed during Regular Meetings are found in Article XI, General Provisions, Sections I and 2.

(b) Those voting members present at any Regular Meetings shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

Section 3: **Voting Procedures**

All measures and/or actions shall be carried by a clear majority vote. If a motion is made, that if passed would amend any motion passed at a previous meeting, the proposed motion must be published in the newsletter following the meeting and be voted on at the next meeting.

ARTICLE VII **BOARD of DIRECTORS**

Section 1: **Enumeration**

The Board of Directors shall consist of three elected Directors: Director at Large, Alabama Director, and Florida Director; Four elected Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer; and the Immediate Past President of the Association. The Immediate Past President's duties are defined by the President and will generally be special projects or issues in which the Association is involved in. The Immediate Past President is the retiring President from the previous term and shall remain in office until replaced by the retirement of the sitting President at the end of his/her term(s). If a President serves more than one consecutive term, the Past President remains in place until the retirement of that President or his/her appointed replacement if the second term is not completed.

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Only a President that is in office at the end of his/her term can be considered a Past President for the next term. If a President resigns before the end of his term, he cannot be considered Past President at that point or any point in the future.

Section 2. **Qualification for Election**

(a) Officers will be elected by ballot at the Annual Meeting for a term of one year by majority vote. Should there be no majority vote, a revote between the two candidates with the most votes will take place.

(b) Directors will be elected by ballot at the Annual Meeting for a term of three years by majority vote. Should there be no majority vote a revote between the two candidates with the most votes will take place. Only one Director will come up for election each year. Elections to fill Director vacancies, however, may take place. In that case election will be held to fill remainder of term vacated.

(c) To be elected to a position on the Board of Directors, a member must possess the following qualifications:

1. Have been a Full or Associate member for at least two (2) year previous to election and be a Full member in the year of election.
2. Attain the age of 21 years.
3. Be in attendance at the Annual Meeting and be able to attend 80% of all meetings.
4. Be a person who is involved in owning, breeding, training, showing or otherwise actively involved in the promotion of the Arabian Horse.

(d) A member of the Board of Directors shall remain a member in good standing of the Association at all times during his/her continuation in Office. Failure to do so will result in removal from office.

Section 3: **Limitations**

(a) No person shall be eligible to hold an office on the Board of Directors in the same office for more than two consecutive terms. The foregoing limitation shall not be applicable to the Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President, or to an appointee to fill a vacancy.

(b.) Elected members on the Board of Directors may be from the same household. However no two Board Members from the same house hold shall be allowed to sign checks from the association's bank accounts.

Section 4: **Vacancies**

- (a) Vacancies may occur as a result of death, resignation, or permanent inability to assume duties.
- (b) Failure to maintain membership.
- (c) Removal from Office by two-thirds vote at the Annual Meeting.
- (d) The Board of Directors shall review the record of any elected member of the Board of Directors who attends less than seventy-five percent of regularly scheduled Board Meetings and may give consideration to a request for resignation.

Section 5: **Meetings for Board of Directors**

- (a) There shall be a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors immediately following each Annual meeting.
- (b) There shall be a Regular Board of Directors meeting each quarter, January, April, July and October.

- (c) Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or the Board Majority at any time upon reasonable notice to each member of the Board of Directors.
- (d) At any meeting of the Board of Directors, the presence of 51% of the Board shall constitute a quorum to transact business.
- (e) The Board of Directors may take action by phone or mail, and a majority vote shall rule. Directors are reminded they cannot obligate the Association for more than \$100 without vote of the Association membership.
- (f) All issues dealing with the Futurity must be voted on by members of the Futurity, coordinated by the Futurity Chair.
- (g) All Regular Board of Director Meetings are open to Association members in good standing.

ARTICLE VIII **OFFICERS**

Section 1: Enumeration

The Officers of the Association shall consist of a president, a vice-president, a secretary and a treasurer. The Officers hold seats on the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Duties of the President

- (a) The president shall preside at the Annual Meeting, meetings of the General Membership, and meetings of the Board of Directors.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided, he/she shall appoint all committees that shall serve at the pleasure of the President; and he/she shall be an Ex-Officio Member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.
- (c) Within the limitations imposed by the Articles of Incorporation, these by-laws and any duly adopted Resolution, the President shall have general power to conduct and manage the affairs and business of the Association.
- (d) At the Annual Meeting or before, the Outgoing President shall see that Incoming President is given a list of committees to be chaired plus a list of known new business for the Annual Meeting.

Section 3: Duties of the Vice-President

- (a) The Vice-President, in order of precedence, shall assume the duties of President in the event of the Presidents absence or inability to act, or at his/her request.
- (b) The Vice-President shall have other duties as may be specifically delegated him/her by the President.

Section 4: Duties of the Secretary

- (a) The Secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, a full and complete record of the proceedings, of the Annual Meeting, Regular Meetings, and of meeting of the Board of Directors and of action taken by the Board of Directors.
- (b) The Secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, the seal, books, documents, and papers of the Association, and shall affix the seal to all papers duly authorized by the President. .
- (c) The Secretary shall handle, or cause to handled, all correspondence and communications approved by the President and perform all duties incipient to the officer of Secretary.
- (d) The Secretary shall keep a corrected current copy of the Association by-laws.
- (f) The Secretary shall have such other duties as may be delegated to him/her by the President.

Section 8: Duties of the Treasurer

- (a) The Treasurer shall receive all moneys belonging to, or paid to the Association and safely keep the same.
- (b) The Treasurer shall disburse funds of the Association in accordance with the directions given to him by the President.
- (c) The Treasures shall keep complete books of account; prepare and present an itemized statement in the Annual Meeting, and prepare and present such interim reports as may be required by the President.
- (d) The Treasurer shall secure and maintain proper bond for all people responsible for Association moneys.
- (e) The Treasurer shall have such other duties as may be delegated to him/her by the President.
- (f) Records shall be audited annually. These records shall include the general account, show account, the futurity account and any other financial accounts or funds belonging to the association.

ARTICLE IX
DIRECTORS

Section 1: Enumeration

The Directors of the Association shall consist of the Alabama Director, the Florida Director, and the Director-at-Large. The Directors hold seats on the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Duties of Directors

- (a.) Directors are to maintain liaison with the appropriate membership, i.e. Alabama Director with the Alabama membership, Florida Director with the Florida membership, and the Director-at-Large membership outside Alabama and Florida. This responsibility is to address geographical concerns, member issues, solicit and foster ideas, projects, and meeting activities.

ARTICLE X
COMMITTEES

Section 1: Nomination Committee

- (a) **Creation of Nominating Committee**
 - 1.) A Nominating committee consisting of voting Members shall be elected each year to nominate Officers, Directors, and Delegates-for the following year.
- (b) **Duties of the Nominating Committee**
 - 1.) The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of nominees for the up coming elections to the Board of Directors thirty days before the Annual Meeting.
 - 2.) Prior to the Annual Meeting the Nominating committee shall post the proposed slate of nominees in the Association Newsletter.

Section 2: Delegates of AHA & Region XII, AHA

- (a) In order to be eligible to serve as Delegate, a Nominee must be a Full Member in good standing and must have attended not less than seven meetings of either the Regular Meetings, the Board of Director Meetings, or a combination from both totaling at least seven, in one calendar year, January through December. The above attendance requirement refers to the months immediately prior to the Convention in order for the Delegate to be conversant with current problems.

- (b) All persons nominated must be willing to take full responsibility and serve a one year term as Delegate.
- (c) All names submitted by the Nominating Committee, plus all names placed in nomination from the floor, be on one ballot to be voted upon in the election of Delegates with the nominees receiving the largest number of votes to serve as Delegates and those remaining as Alternates.
The number of delegates elected should be based on AHA requirements and two Alternates. In all cases, the current President shall serve as a Delegate.
- (d) Delegates shall be elected at the Annual Meeting .
- (e) The Delegates shall select a Chairman and a Secretary from their membership.
- (f) Should there be a decrease in Association Membership causing an excess of Delegates, those receiving the least amount of votes will be removed first beginning with the Alternates.
- (g) Should no Delegate or Alternate be able to attend a National or Regional Convention or Meeting, the President may appoint a Board of Director to attend.
- (h) All Delegates shall give a short written or oral synopsis of the AHA Convention and/or Regional Meetings at the next regularly scheduled DGAHA Meeting
- (I) DGAHA shall help offset the expenses of it's Delegates who have actually attended the AHA Meetings.

Section 3: Other Committees

- (a)The Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors, or the President may provide for the appointment and duties of such other committees as may be necessary or desirable.
- (b) Standing committees which are responsible for club funds (i.e. Show, Futurity, Youth) will elect a chair who will, at a minimum, provide committee financial reports at the Regular Meetings, and, if appropriate, monthly bank statements to the Association Treasurer.

ARTICLE XI
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1: Robert's Rules of Order

- (a) **The rules contained in the "Robert's Rules of Order" shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with these by-laws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.**
- (b) **The above rules of order will cover the Annual Meeting, Regular Meetings, the Board of Director's Meetings, and all Committee Meetings.**

Section 2: In addition to nominations by the Nominating Committee, nominations may be made from the floor.

Section 3: All meetings are open to all members in good standing. Guests are welcome.

Section 4: All meetings shall be held within the membership area.

ARTICLE XI
SUPERSESION

These by-laws supersede any and all By-laws in effect heretofore and supersede and all resolutions in consistent here within.

Voted April 29, 1979
Deidre DeGroote
Secretary/Treasurer

Updated April 1992
L. M. Janssen
D. H. Huprich

Revisions recorded as voted
January 1999
L. M. Janssen Secretary 1999

Revision recorded as voted
January 2001
L.L. Smith Secretary 2001

Revision recorded as voted
January 2002
Dawn O'Connor Secretary 2002

Revision recorded as voted
January 2007
Sandra Sherman, Secretary 2006

Revision recorded as voted
January 2010
Sandra Sherman, Secretary 2010

Revision recorded as voted
July 2012
Sandra Sherman, Secretary 2012

