

FOOTHILLS INDIAN HORSE CLUB BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I NAME, PLACE OF BUSINESS, OBJECTIVES

SECTION 1. Name: This association shall be known as the Foothills Indian Horse Club (FIHC or Association), an affiliate of the American Indian Horse Registry, Inc. and a non-profit organization.

SECTION 2. Place of Business: The place of business will be limited to the upstate of South Carolina; however, members shall be allowed from all over the U.S.

SECTION 3. Objectives: Promote and show the versatility of the American Indian Horse, and to promote horsemanship, sportsmanship and understanding of, and proper care of, the horse.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP, DUES AND APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Membership and Voting Rights:

(A) The membership of the FIHC shall be open to men and women and children of all ages.

(B) The membership of this club shall consist of Family, Individual, Sponsored Member and Farm members. If you are a user of the farm's animals, you may register as a Sponsored Member to join the club or use any other type of voting membership.

- (1) A family membership consists of all persons living in the same household. Up to two adult family members may vote and hold office.
- (2) An individual member is an active member who may vote and hold an office.
- (3) An adult, active member shall sponsor a sponsored **Member**. Sponsored members may not vote or hold office.
- (4) A farm membership consists of all the horses that belong to a named farm. Any points earned by these horses can be maintained by the named farm in the year-end membership trophy series. Up to two adult family members may vote or hold office. A family membership consists of all persons living in the same household. Up to two adult family members may vote and hold office. Horses points are not transferable between farms based on ownership.

SECTION 2. Dues:

(A) The annual dues of the Association shall be reviewed annually and determined by the Board of Directors. All dues shall be sent to the Treasurer and shall cover the period from January 1st to December 31st of the calendar year. The Board of Directors shall have the right to suggest a change in dues, as needed by the Association.

(B) Membership dues are payable on January 1. Any member three (3) months delinquent in dues will be dropped from the mailing list and all privileges in the Association shall be forfeited until such dues are paid. Currently, the dues are as follows:

- (1) Family membership - \$20.00 per year
- (2) Individual membership - \$15.00 per year
- (3) Sponsored membership - \$10.00
- (4) Farm membership - \$25.00 per year

SECTION 3. Application for Membership:

(A) Any person applying for membership must fill out an application form and together with the dues for the current year, hand or mail it to the Treasurer of this Association.

(B) The file of active members will be maintained by the President and be made available to the Secretary as necessary.

SECTION 4. Removal of Membership Privileges:

(A) The Board of Directors and Officers with a two-thirds vote, is empowered to require a member who has acted detrimental to the Association, American Indian Horse, or in an unsportsmanlike manner in general, to resign his membership privileges in the Association.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS, NOMINATIONS, ELECTION AND TERMS OF OFFICE

SECTION 1. Officers: The officers shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, and a board of three (3) directors.

(A) The officers shall have the power to appoint officers having special duties; Example: Marketing and Public Relations Director

SECTION 2. Nominations: Nominations for officers shall be held at the last regular meeting of the year, the Christmas Party.

SECTION 3. Elections: Elections will be held at the first meeting of the New Year, typically at the Year End Awards Banquet on the third Saturday in January.

(A) Tie Vote: In the event of a tie vote only the names of those candidates who have the same number of votes shall be placed before the membership in attendance for a new vote.

(B) Election by Acclamation: When there is only one candidate for an office, it will not be necessary to cast a ballot for their election. By a motion, duly made, seconded and carried, the Secretary may be instructed to cast the ballot for all members present, electing the candidate by acclamation.

SECTION 4. Terms of Office: The newly elected officers shall hold office until their successors are installed. The term of office is one (1) year. Board members shall be elected each year to a two-year term to fill vacancies on a rotating basis. The past President will automatically serve as a Board member for the year following the term as President.

SECTION 5. Replacement of an Officer Unable to Serve Out Their Term: In the event that the Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer or any of the Board of Directors is not able to serve his/her elected term of office, the President is empowered to appoint a replacement subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, to serve for the remainder of the term of that office. Should the President be unable to serve out his/her term, the remaining officers shall convene an emergency meeting and appoint a replacement for the President.

SECTION 6. Removal of an Officer: Should any elected club officer or board member be deemed unfit to continue serving in that capacity, the remaining officers and board members will convene an emergency meeting to vote on the removal of said official. An official member shall appoint a replacement, and with approval from the remaining officiating body, the replacement shall serve the remainder of the term as an Acting-official. Grounds for removal shall include, but are not limited to, irregular meeting attendance, not fulfilling the requirements of the office (See Article IV) and conduct unbecoming of a club official.

ARTICLE IV FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

SECTION 1. President:

(A) It shall be the President's duty to preside at all regular and special meetings of the organization and at all the meetings of the Board of Directors. It shall be the President's duty to appoint all the standing committees for the year. The President shall appoint special committees from time to time to special duties as needed, with full authority to create or discharge said committees at any time.

(B) It shall be the duty of the President to maintain a membership list.

(C) **The President and Secretary shall maintain duplicate copies of all official business.**

(D) The Power is hereby vested in the President to authorize the purchase of mailing material, postage, and all such incidental expenses as necessary in conducting the duties of this office.

(E) The President and Secretary shall tally the End of Year Riding and Horse of the Year, as well as Year End Rider's Points and Versatility Combinations for Points/Hours results, as well Farm of the Year.

SECTION 2. Vice-President:

(A) It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to preside at meetings in the absence of the President.

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(B) It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to attend meetings of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3. Secretary:

(A) It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep records of the minutes of the General Membership meetings and minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors. A copy will be provided to the President for his/her records.

(B) It shall be the duty of the Secretary to prepare correspondence at the direction of the President and /or Board of Directors: maintain files of both written and received. A copy will also be given to the President for his/her records.

(C) The power is hereby vested in the Secretary, as necessary, to authorize the purchase of mailing material, postage and all such incidental expenses in conducting the duties of this office. Bills shall be presented to the Treasurer on or before the next Board of Directors meeting.

(D) The President and Secretary shall maintain duplicate copies of all official business.

(E) The President and Secretary shall tally the End of Year Riding and Horse of the Year, as well as Year End Rider's Points and Versatility Combinations for Points/Hours results, as well Farm of the Year.

SECTION 4. Treasurer:

(A) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all monies due the Association, and keep accurate records of such monies and to deposit all such receipts in the bank account approved by the Board of Directors.

(B) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to report payment of all bills of the Association to the Board of Directors.

(C) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to prepare and file or record all reports required by state and federal law.

(D) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to make a financial report to the Board of Directors and to the General Membership at each meeting and to furnish the President and Secretary with a copy.

(E) The Power is hereby vested in the Treasurer to authorize the purchase of mailing material, postage, and all such incidental expenses as necessary in conducting the duties of this office.

(F) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to attend all meetings of the Board of Directors.

(G) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to assist in the preparation of the Association's annual budget.

ARTICLE V DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. Meetings: The meeting of the Board of Directors shall be called by the President or, in the absence of the President, by the Vice-President. Five (5) meeting officials shall constitute a quorum. The President shall notify the Board of Directors of the time and place of the meeting. Such notice shall be given verbally and shall be given, whenever possible, at least seven days in advance.

SECTION 2. Transaction of Business: It shall be the duty and function of the Board of Directors to conduct all business transactions of the Association which the President refers to it, and all transactions brought before the general membership, for final approval.

SECTION 3. Attendance: Board meetings are open to the general membership. The President may invite chairmen of the committees to attend and give reports. Anyone wishing to be put on the agenda must contact the President well in advance of the board meeting. A specified time will be granted to visitors for open discussion.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. The membership shall determine committees deemed necessary to conduct the business and activities of this organization.

SECTION 2. The committee shall select a committee chairperson.

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SECTION 3. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

ARTICLE VII HORSE SHOWS

SECTION 1. The Foothills Indian Horse Club shall sponsor horse shows for the general membership. It will be up to the membership to determine how many, when and where these shows will be held.

SECTION 2. Only members are allowed to participate in horse shows. In the event a non-member wishes to participate, they will pay a one-day membership fee of \$5.00. This will allow them to compete as a member and be covered by our insurance.

SECTION 3. Members will pay \$20 for the right to participate in the versatility shows sponsored by the club; non-members will pay \$25 per show.

SECTION 4. These prices do not apply to the Regional Championship Show held over the Labor Day weekend. The rates outlined in Section 3, Article VII shall be determined by the officers of the club on a yearly basis.

SECTION 5. Awards – At each show in the versatility series the following awards will be given out as outlined in the General Event Rules.

ARTICLE VIII MEETINGS

SECTION 1. Regular meetings of the Foothills Indian Horse Club shall be held at a time and place decided on by the general membership.

SECTION 2. Membership meetings shall be held on the first Sunday of every other month at 4:00 pm. Other meetings as deemed necessary by the officers and board shall be called when the situation warrants it.

ARTICLE IX VOTING

SECTION 1. All decisions requiring a vote shall be made by a simple majority, unless stated otherwise in the by-laws. In the case of a general membership meeting, a majority consists of the voting members present.

SECTION 2. For voting eligibility, refer to Article II

ARTICLE X ACTIVITIES

SECTION 1. All activities shall be determined by the membership at a regular meeting of this organization.

ARTICLE XI BY-LAWS AND AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. All motions to amend the by-laws must be presented in writing and signed by three (3) members in good standing. They must be presented to the Board of Directors and receive a two-thirds vote of those Board Members present prior to being presented to the general membership.

SECTION 2. The Board of Directors may pass resolutions recommending amendments to the by-laws, but may in no instance change them by additions or deletions without the general membership vote. The copy shall be presented to the American Indian Horse Registry for final approval.

SECTION 3. Amendments must be delivered to the membership at the next membership meeting or through the mail. The motion shall be open for discussion and a vote will be taken at the next membership meeting to allow time to review the motion(s). A by-laws amendment requires a two-thirds majority of the members present to pass.

ARTICLE XII RULES OF ORDER

The actions of meetings of the Foothills Indian Horse Club shall be governed by "Roberts Rules of Order", as they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws.