

Wisconsin Pinto Horse Association Constitution

Article I, Name:

This organization will be named Wisconsin Pinto Horse Association Inc. The official abbreviation will be WPtHA.

Article II, Purpose:

The purpose of the not for profit Organization will be to promote the Pinto Horse through horse shows, trail rides, and other events, the promotion of good horsemanship, horse husbandry, the promotion of sportsmanship and any other endeavors to promote the Pinto horse.

Article III, Policies:

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

Article IV, Membership:

Membership is open to any person who is interested in Pinto Horses and their welfare, and in the purpose of PtHA.

Article V, Officers:

Section 1. The Office will be members or become members to hold an office in a Charter Association. An Officer is automatically a representative of PtHA.

Section 2. All Officers will be elected from the board by the board and they will consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The duration of office will be one year from January 1 to December 31, or until their successors have been elected.

Section 3. The Board of Directors will be elected from the membership by the membership and shall be up to 10 members total. The entire Board shall be responsible for the routine administration and management of the organization. The duration of office will be two (2) years from January 1, to December 31 of the following year, or until their successors have been elected. Half the Board will be elected on odd numbered years and the other half on even numbered years in order to maintain continuity on the Board. Implementation of this 2 year term will require that half the Board be voted a one year term and the other half a two year term.

Section 4. Election: Each member has the privilege of casting one vote for each board position up for election. Eligibility to vote will be determined by those members 19 and over, holding a membership card of WPtHA for not less than four months prior to the election. A person receiving a majority of the votes cast for each office will be deemed to have been elected.

Section 5. Any Board Member absent more than two meetings without legitimate excuse, forfeits his office and is not eligible for election to any office in the ensuing year. The board will be informed of any absences prior to the meeting.

Section 6. The President will sit as Chairperson of the Board and vote only to break a tie vote. The Board will meet at the call of the president and at least, twice a year.

Section 7. Special meetings may be called by the Board at such times as thought advisable. Such special meetings may not supersede regular meetings except when especially provided for.

Article VII. Amendments

Any proposed amendments to this Constitution may be submitted at any regular meeting of the organization. Such proposed amendments must be presented by three active members of WPtHA, in good standing before being submitted to a general membership meeting. The membership will be given notice of the meeting, the proposal will be discussed, and then it may be voted upon and will become part of the Constitution if approved by two-thirds of the members present and voting at said meeting.

WISCONSIN PINTO HORSE ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

The Constitution lays down the principles of the organization. The Bylaws concern chiefly the method of procedure rather than the basic principles. These bylaws are more easily amended and need not in any way affect the aim and purpose of this organization.

Article BL I. Membership

Section 1. An individual or family will be called a member of this , upon submitting appropriate membership application and fees to WPtHA.

Section 2. Individuals eighteen years old and under as of January 1st of the membership year will be Youth members.

Section 3. Individual membership is for a person nineteen years and older as of January 1st of the membership year. Family membership will include husband, wife, and their children eighteen years of age and under.

Section 4. Voting Privileges. Each membership constitutes one vote. Voting privileges are for those nineteen years and older as of January 1st of the membership year.

Section 5. The Board reserves the right to deny membership or renewal of membership to individuals with prior disciplinary incidents.

Article BL II. Dues

Section 1. A new member joining the organization within the last three months preceding the end of the year, will automatically be considered to have paid his dues for the ensuing year.

Section 2. Members will be notified during January that the annual dues are payable. Should the dues remain unpaid after the date of February 28, they will cease to be a member of the organization.

Section 3. A member who has been dropped from the active membership roll for any reason, (except delinquent dues), in order to become reinstated will show cause to be submitted to the Board in writing a request to be reinstated as a member. Membership privileges may be returned to the Individual upon a majority vote of the Board along with proper membership fees, although membership fees may be waived at the direction of the Board.

Section 4. All members will be notified by the board of the time and place of a general membership meeting at least one week prior to said meeting except special meetings when especially provided for.

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

Article BL III. Duties of the Officers

Section 1. The President will preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and the membership. He/She will exercise general supervision and management over all the affairs of the organization and will serve as an ex-officio member on all standing committees, who may vote only to break a tie therein except the Nominating Committee. The President will complete and send the charter renewal after November 1 and before December 31 to the National office of each year.

Section 2. The Vice-President will preside in the absence of the President. He/She will be Chairperson of the Finance Committee and ensure submission of the annual financial report to the general membership.

Section 3. The Secretary will keep and maintain the minutes of all meetings of WPtHA, Standing Committees, Executive Committees, and the Board. These minutes will be an accurate and official records of all business transacted. The secretary will be custodian of all records including financial reports of the Treasurer. He/She will prepare all correspondence, reports and routine business records of and for the Organization.

Section 4. The Treasurer will receive all Organization funds, keep them in a bank or Depository approved by the Executive Committee keep a faithful record of all receipts and expenditures and dispense the Organizational funds. The Treasurer will be a member of the Finance Committee and will provide the information needed to prepare the annual financial statement. The Treasurer will submit a Report of Expenditures and Intake at each meeting

Article BL IV. Duties of the Board of Directors

The Board will be the policy making body of the Organization and act upon all important issues brought before the Board. Their decision is final unless vetoed by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a regular meeting. The Board will approve the Expenditures submitted by the applicable Committee. The board will require an audit of the Financial Records and Assets of the Organization at the request of two-thirds of the voting membership or when deemed necessary by the board.

Section 1: Resignation of Board members. Any Board member may resign his or her office at any time by giving written notice to the remaining members of the Board. The resignation shall take effect at the time specified in such notice, or if no time is therein specified, then immediately; and unless and otherwise provided in such notice, acceptance of the resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective. A Board member, who shall for any reason become disqualified to hold his/her office, or to be a member of WPtHA or of The Pinto Horse Association of America, Inc., shall be deemed to have resigned his/her office effective on the date of such disqualification.

Section 2. Removal of Board members. A member of the Board of Directors may be removed at any time , with or without cause, by vote of two-thirds of the Board. Any member of the Board of Directors absent from more than two meetings of the Board in any one year, without good cause satisfactory to the remaining Directors, shall forfeit his/her office, and shall not be eligible for election to the Board during the ensuing year.

Section 3. Vacancies. Any Vacancy in the Board occurring by reason of death, resignation, disqualification, removal, or inability to act on the Board, or other cause, shall be filled by an affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining Board members.

Section 4. Compensation of Officers or Board members is prohibited. Members of the Board shall not be compensated for their services as a board member, except that a Board member may receive a fee for his/her other services as an independent contractor. Board members may be reimbursed for expenses incurred on behalf of WPtHA.

Section 5. Responsibility of the Board members. It is the responsibility of each member of the Board to discharge his/her duties in good faith, in a manner the Board member reasonably believes to be in the best interests of WPtHA, and with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances. All Board members must have valid email account for personal and confidential official communication of minutes and board information.

Section 6. Indemnification of the Board. To the full extent permitted by the Wisconsin Nonprofit Corporation regulations, WPtHA shall indemnify and hold all persons serving WPtHA as a member of its Board harmless against any and all claims, demands, suits, actions, or other liability, both civil and criminal, provided the Board member has acted in good faith and within the scope of his/her duties and responsibilities.

Section 7. Board Member Participation Requirement
All Board members are required to actively participate in the operation of WPtHA-sanctioned horse shows and events. Participation may include, but is not limited to:

- On-site assistance during shows (such as office support, ring assistance, awards, announcing, or gate work),
- Pre-show preparation (such as organizing awards, sponsorships, publicity, set-up of arenas, or arranging logistics), and

- Post-show responsibilities (such as tear-down, record keeping, or follow-up correspondence).

Failure to contribute meaningfully to the operation of WPtHA shows, without good cause, may be considered neglect of duty and addressed by the Board under the disciplinary provisions of these bylaws.

Article BL V. Committees

Committees other than the standing committees, will be appointed and charged with responsibilities by the WPtHA Board.

Article BL VI. Standing Committees

There will be eight Standing Committees, The Chairperson of which will be appointed by the President. The committee and their responsibilities:

Section 1. Nomination Committee. This committee will consist of a Chairperson appointed by the president and at least one other member chosen by the Board. The Committee will meet at the call of the Chairperson and will constantly be on the alert for potential new Board members within the membership. At the meeting, the Committee will submit a slate of candidates of qualified nominations for the Board or other committees.

Section 2. Show Committee. The Committee will consist of a Chairperson appointed by the President. The Committee will meet at the discretion of the Chairperson to prepare a recommended program for the shows sponsored and present said program to the Board for approval. It is the responsibility in all cases to provide the most economical means of promoting the event, in order to ensure against grave financial losses. The committee will submit to the Board guidelines for per class expenditures for shows to be approved by the Board.

Section 3. Publicity Committee. The Committee will consist of a Chairperson appointed by the President and at least one other member chosen by the Chairperson. The Committee will meet at the call of the Chairperson. The Committee will plan and execute a program for actively promoting membership, informing the membership, and participation at shows and events. This may include, but not limited to appropriate exhibits at events, horse shows, social media, and a website.

Section 4. Finance Committee. This Committee will consist of a Chairperson who will be the Vice President of this organization and members appointed by the Chairperson, one of which will be the Treasurer. The Finance Committee will prepare a report of Expenditures and Intake for the previous fiscal year for presentation to the general membership at the annual meeting.

Section 5. Legislative Committee. This Committee will consist of a Chairperson appointed by the President and at least one other person selected by the Chairperson. The Committee will meet at the call of the Chairperson to review the constitution and bylaws making recommendations for changes and updates. This will then be forwarded to the Board for discussion and revision. The final version will be presented to the general membership for approval.

Section 6. Points and Awards Committee. This Committee will consist of a Chairperson who will be appointed by the President and members selected by the Chairperson. This committee has several functions: select potential award prizes within the set budget given by the Board; present proposed award categories based on the current showbill class listing and budget to the Board; prepare a list of award recipients; and obtain the awards for

distribution at the annual banquet. The Committee will be governed by the policies established by the Association.

Section 7. Marketing Committee. This Committee will consist of a Chairperson appointed by the President. This Committee will solicit sponsorships from the membership and/or relevant commercial businesses. They will receive donations and organize their distribution into raffles, exhibitor drawings, and/or awards. They will acknowledge sponsors with banners, announcements, social media, and/or personalized thank you cards.

Section 8. Youth Committee. This Committee will consist of a Chairperson appointed by the President. This Committee will survey the needs of the youth in our membership and promote active participation on their part.

Section 9. Grievance Committee. The Grievance Committee shall consist of the four (4) elected officers of the Association, plus one (1) additional member appointed by the Board to ensure an odd number of members. The Grievance Committee will meet as needed to review and resolve complaints formally submitted to the Board. Matters reviewed by the Committee may include, but are not limited to:

1. Alleged violations of the Association's bylaws, policies, or rules.
2. Exhibitor, member, or participant misconduct at WPTHA-sanctioned events.
3. Conflicts of interest or ethical concerns involving Board members, officers, or committee members.
4. Disputes arising from show management, including class placings, awards, or rule enforcement.
5. Misuse of Association property or resources.
6. Harassment, intimidation, or unsportsmanlike conduct that undermines the mission of the Association.

Procedures:

- Complaints must be submitted in writing to the Board, identifying the facts, individuals involved, and the desired resolution.
- The Grievance Committee will review, investigate, and make a written recommendation for resolution to the Board.
- Proceedings will remain confidential to protect the privacy of members and the integrity of the process.

Article BL VII. Meetings

Section 1. The annual meeting will be the meeting for hearing the annual reports from all the Officers and the Committee

Section 2. As of January 1 new officers will be installed to the new positions.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called by , President or the Board at such times as thought advisable. Such special meetings may not supersede regular meetings except when especially provided.

Article BL VIII. Quorum

A quorum will be defined by this as those present at the meeting.

Article BL VIV. Order of Business

Order of business at all meetings of this organization will be as follows:

1. Meeting called to order
2. Roll Call
3. Discussion and Approval of minutes of previous meeting

4. Committee Reports
5. Old Business
6. Election of Board (Fall meeting or electronically)
7. Installation of New Officers (January)
8. Programs (optional) Midwest Horse Fair, Banquet, Special Activities
9. New Business
10. Adjournment

Article BL X. Rules of Order

In the event that any part of this constitution should conflict with the Rules of PtHA. The PtHA Rules and Regulations will prevail. This organization will govern its procedure by "Roberts Rule of Order, Revised." All points not covered herein or provided for by PtHA rules and regulations will be covered by the current PtHA Rule Book.

Article BL XI. Dissolution

Upon dissolution, all outstanding debts are to be discharged and remainder of funds and assets distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code by the current Board.

Article BL XII. Conflict of interest

If any Member, Board member, or Officer or their immediate family has a financial stake or relationship to the service, item, or payment to be made to or from WPtHA whether personal or related to their business or family's business, that member, Board member, or Officer must abstain from the vote to approve such action and may not influence or coerce any other member, Board member, or Officer in the vote.

Article BL XIII. Disciplinary Action Policy

Any member in good standing, may file charges against any other member for conduct likely, in his opinion, to endanger the welfare or character of this organization. An incident report will be filed and investigation into the claim performed by a Board member(s), preferably the President, if available.

In order to maintain a safe, respectful, and sportsmanlike environment at all WPtHA sanctioned events, the following tiered system of discipline shall apply to any exhibitor, participant, spectator, or individual affiliated with an exhibitor who violates show rules, engages in unsportsmanlike conduct, causes disruption, or behaves in a manner deemed detrimental to the welfare of the show, its participants, or the reputation of WPtHA:

Step 1 – Verbal Warning

An individual may be issued a verbal warning for inappropriate conduct. A written record of the incident shall be kept on file.

Step 2 – Immediate Removal from Show Grounds

Upon a second offense, or if conduct is deemed significantly disruptive or aggressive, the individual shall be required to leave the show grounds immediately and shall forfeit all entry fees, stall fees, and other paid expenses. If the individual refuses to leave or becomes uncooperative, local law enforcement will be contacted. A written report shall be filed with the WPtHA Board.

Step 3 – Permanent Ban

A third offense, or any egregious behavior that severely threatens the safety or integrity of the show or its members, may result in a permanent ban from participation in all WPtHA events. Notice of the ban shall be provided in writing, and the individual may appeal the decision to the WPtHA Board in writing within 30 days.

Enforcement and Appeals

All disciplinary actions shall be enforced by the WPtHA Board of Directors or designated show officials. Individuals subject to any sanction have the right to request a hearing before the Board within 30 days of notice. The Board's decision following such hearing shall be final.

Expungement of Past Complaints

If no additional incidents involving the individual are reported within three years from the date of the original incident, the WPtHA will delete, erase, and/or expunge the related records from its files.

Article BL XIV. Anti-Bullying and Harassment Policy

1. Scope of Policy

This policy applies to all members, exhibitors, participants, spectators, and individuals affiliated with WPtHA, including interactions directed toward Board members, show staff, and volunteers.

2. Definition of Bullying and Harassment

- *Bullying* includes repeated or severe behavior that intimidates, undermines, or demeans another individual, whether in person, in writing, or through electronic communication.
- *Harassment* includes any conduct, comment, gesture, or display that causes offense, humiliation, or creates an unsafe or hostile environment. This includes rumors, false allegations, intimidation, threats, or attempts to publicly discredit WPtHA officials, show staff, or volunteers.

3. Prohibited Conduct

The following behaviors are prohibited at all WPtHA-sanctioned events and in all official communications (including digital platforms and social media):

- Verbal abuse, yelling, or derogatory remarks directed at Board members, show staff, or volunteers.
- Intimidation, threats, or efforts to coerce decision-making.
- Spreading false or malicious rumors about WPtHA representatives.
- Online harassment or cyber-bullying of any WPtHA official, staff member, or volunteer.

4. Reporting and Investigation

- Any incident should be reported using the official WPtHA Incident Report Form or directly to a Board member.
- Reports will be reviewed by the Board, and appropriate investigation will follow. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

5. Consequences

Depending on severity, disciplinary actions may include:

- Verbal or written warning.
- Immediate removal from the event grounds without refund.
- Suspension of membership privileges.
- Permanent expulsion from WPtHA.

6. Protection of Officials

- Board members, show staff, and volunteers are entitled to carry out their roles free from intimidation, harassment, or abuse.
- Retaliation against any individual who files a complaint in good faith will not be tolerated and will create a further incident.

Article BL X. Rules of Order

In the event that any part of this constitution should conflict with the Rules and Regulations of the PtHA Rules and Regulations will prevail. This organization will govern its procedure

by "Roberts Rule of Order, Revised." All points not covered herein or provided for by rules and regulations will be covered by the PTHA Rule Book

Attested to This Date_____

President_____

Vice-president_____

Secretary_____

Treasurer_____

Revised and approved: _____