

**BY- LAWS of the
OHIO-KENTUCKY WALKING & RACKING HORSE ASSOCIATION**

Adopted January 1987

Revised January 2004

Revised January 2019

HISTORY

The Ohio Racking Horse Association formed in 1987 for the sole purpose of promotion and supporting the good of the Racking Horse. We are a non-profit organization, with the proceeds from our activities going to what the membership has deemed as worthy programs in need.

In January of 2004 the membership of the club decided it would be in the best interest of the club to change the name from Ohio Racking Horse Association, to the Ohio Kentucky Walking & Racking Horse Association to include the neighboring states of Kentucky and the Tennessee Walking Horse, to appeal to a wider variety of horse enthusiast, and increase membership.

ARTICLE I

TITLE, PURPOSE, OBJECTIVES & PLACE OF BUSINESS

SECTION 1- TITLE

This Association shall be known as the OHIO-KENTUCKY WALKING & RACKING HORSE ASSOCIATION (Further referenced as O.K.W.R.H.A), and shall at all times be operated and conducted as a non- profit association in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky providing for such organizations and by which it shall acquire all such rights as granted to associations of this kind.

SECTION 2-PURPOSE

The **O.K.W.R.H.A** is a fellowship club which holds annual trail rides, cookouts, and picnics for their members. We have a monthly meeting from January through July of each year, with the high point's banquet at the end of each year. In essence we are a group of people bound together by a common interest-horses.

Presently the club consists of members throughout Ohio and Kentucky.

SECTION 3-OBJECTIVES

- (A) To encourage, serve, and promote, through unity in an organized Association, betterment of all phases of activity involved in the ownership, exhibition, trail

riding, training and breeding of the Walking, Racking and Spotted Saddle Horse breeds.

- (B) To do all things necessary within the facilities and finances of the Association permitted, to promote and stimulate growth within Ohio, Kentucky and surrounding states. This association strives to stimulate interest and participation in all facets of activity associated with Walking, Racking and Spotted Saddle Horse breeds.
- (C) To establish awards and prizes as the Association may deem fit and proper to encourage interest and participation.
- (D) This Association may associate itself with other organizations across Ohio and Kentucky or nationally in order to promote the purposes for which the Association is organized.

SECTION 3-PLACE OF BUSINESS

The principal place of business of the Association shall be determined by the Board of Directors of the Association from time to time, but its members or officers may be residents of any state and business may be carried on at any place convenient to such members or officials that may be participating.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND MEETINGS

SECTION 1-MEMBERSHIP

Anyone who has an interest in horses and doing good for the neighboring communities may be a member.

Membership must be paid before the start of the April meeting annually to keep voting rights and to continue to receive information from the club. Also, membership must be paid before you show your horse in order for the high points to count. Membership runs from January to December (1/1-12/31) of each year.

SECTION 2-MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

- (A) Family Memberships-A family membership, including husband, wife, and any children under age 18; may be issued upon the same basis of qualification and acceptance for membership required in the case of an individual membership. Any member of a family holding this type of membership who is over the age of eighteen shall be eligible for election to the Board of Directors or to any of the offices of the association. Two voters shall appertain to each family membership. Total cost annually for family membership is **\$25**.

(B) Individual Membership- Individual memberships shall be issued to such persons or organizations who have applied therefore and have been accepted by the Board of Directors. Individual members may attend membership meetings and shall have one vote. Individual members must be 18 years of age to vote. Individual members at the age of 18 or over as of January 1 of the current year, shall be eligible for election to the Board of Directors or to any of the offices of the corporation. Total cost annually for an individual membership is **\$20**.

(C) Juvenile Membership- Juvenile memberships shall be issued for children ages 17 and under at January 1 of the current year. Juvenile members will be entitled to participate in high point's awards and trail rider awards. However, juvenile members will not be eligible for a vote or Board position until the age of 18 at which they are then required to be enrolled as an Individual member instead. Total cost annually for Juvenile membership is **\$10**.

SECTION 3-MEMBERSHIP FEES AND DUES

(A) There shall be annual membership dues, applicable to family, individual and juvenile classes of membership. The annual dues for the members shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The dues shall become payable on or before the start of the April meeting of each year. No member shall be entitled to vote at the monthly meetings of the Association if payment of his or her annual membership dues are not current at the time of such board set date.

(B) Annually the board may set a date for membership dues to be paid in order for the member to qualify for the high Point and Trail Riders Awards Programs.

SECTION 4-GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

(A) Annual Meetings-There shall be an annual meeting of the membership of the Association at a time and place to be designated by the Board of Directors. The purposes of the annual meeting shall be to:

1. To receive year end reports from all active committee members
2. To receive other reports and conduct any business which may require it be completed before the meeting including suggestions for the betterment of the Association from any member
3. To receive the final report for the fiscal year (calendar year fiscal year) from the Treasurer
4. For making presentations to the winners under any Awards Program in effect

*The official business at the annual meeting is to be conducted for and by current membership only. Voting on all items of business is for current members only.

** Members voting for business items can be by Aye or Nay, by show of hands or by official paper ballot. Any member may make a motion to call for an official paper ballot vote for any item of business.

(B)Special Meetings-Special general membership meetings may be held at any time upon the call of the President or majority of the Board of Directors, or upon the request of not less than twenty percent (20%) of the members.

(C)Notice of Meetings-Notice of monthly, annual or special membership meetings shall be given to each member of the association via O.K.W.R.H.A Facebook page or by email not less than ten (10) days prior to the meeting, notice of the time and place of the meeting. The objective for the calling of any special meeting shall be stated in the notice of such meeting.

(D1)Revocation/Suspension of Membership-In any interest where the conduct of any member has been highly detrimental to the best interest of the association, or where continued membership will result in great detriment or harm to this association, or where any members' conduct is of such outrageous nature as to be against the best interest of this association, or where false and misleading statements have been made or circulated against this association or any of its officers, or members then any member may be suspended or expelled from membership in this association by the Board of Directors. Any member in which their conduct is called into question shall be afforded reasonable opportunity to appear and defend such actions and charges in a private meeting before the Board of Directors. The decision of the Board of Directors in such matter shall be final.

(D2) The OKWRHA reserves the right to deny any membership that the board deems detrimental to the association.

(E)Board Members must have membership by the start of the February meeting in order to keep their board position. In the instance that a board member does not have membership, the board will deem this position as vacant and will be filled by special election.

SECTION 5-The fiscal year of the Association shall run by a calendar year fiscal year from January 1-December 31.

SECTION 6-There shall be no proxy votes in any matter concerning the Association.

SECTION 7-The secretary and treasurer shall collect all membership dues and keep appropriate records of the Association.

SECTION 8-The order of business at any membership meeting shall be:

- a. Call to order
- b. Reading of the minutes from the previous meeting
- c. Communications from the President
- d. Report of the Treasurer
- e. Unfinished or Old Business
- f. New Business

- g. Communications from the membership
- h. Adjournment

*Guests are invited to attend meetings. Only members, however, have the right to be recognized and to express an opinion or make a motion or nomination, or vote.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS

SECTION 1-OFFICERS

The Officers shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Board of Directors.

The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will be elected to a 2 year term.

You must be present at the time of election to be nominated and accept the nomination.

Also, your membership must be paid to be an elected official.

All officers must have membership by the start of February meeting.

SECTION 2-DUTIES OF OFFICERS

(A)The **President** shall preside at all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors. The President shall conduct the business of the Association in accordance with the by-laws and other rules and regulations of the Association and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the nominating committee.

(B) The **Vice President** shall perform duties of the President in the absence of the President or in the event of the death, inability or refusal of the President to act.

(C)The **Secretary** shall perform the following duties:

1. To keep the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors and General Membership.
2. Keep the records of the Association
3. Keep current membership list in proper form and send out notification of meetings as required by these by-laws and by the Board of Directors.
4. To perform other duties and responsibilities as directed by the President and the Board of Directors.

(D)The **Treasurer** shall keep the funds of the Association and shall be required to keep a permanent record of all receipts and disbursements of the Association and to file a report of the same to the membership and to the Board of Directors at Board Meetings and the annual meeting.

SECTION 3-All vacancies in the offices occurring during the membership year of the Association shall be filled by the Board of Directors. Said officers will serve in their capacity until the election of officers at the next annual membership meeting.

SECTION 4-Any officer may be removed from office for cause, at any regular or special called meeting of the Board of Directors by a majority vote.

ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1-BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors will consist of five (5) members in good standing.

Two (2) Board members shall serve a three (3) year term and three will be elected every two (2) years.

The President will serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have, and is herein given full power and authority to publish such rules and regulations for the conduct of its members of the association as its sole judgement and discretion shall be for the interest on the O.K.W.R.H.A. The Board of Directors with the best interest of this association may make decisions deemed necessary for this association when a monthly meeting is not being held.

ARTICLE V AFFILIATED SHOWS

SECTION 1- Affiliated shows are those who submit their show results to the high points committee, in order to count them for year-end high points. For a current list, contact the High Points Chair.

ARTICLE VI INTERPRETATION

SECTION 1-In case of any conflict of various provisions of these by-laws, or in case of any provision requires interpretation; such conflicts of interpretation shall be resolved by the Board of Directors.