

**By Laws of the Arabian Horse Association, Inc of Maine  
Revised November 23, 1999**

**Article 1. Name**

The name of this Association shall be the "Arabian Horse Association, Inc of Maine"

**Article 2. Object**

The object of this Association shall be:

- (A) To promote the Arabian and Half-Arabian and to promote and encourage all uses of Arabian and Half-Arabian horses of the State of Maine.

**Article 3. Membership**

- (A) Membership in this Association shall be open to all persons owning or interested in Arabians and Half-Arabians. All members of The Arabian Horse Association, Inc of Maine over 18 years of age are entitled to vote on any and all business brought before this association.
- (B) Application for membership is to be made in writing or in such manner as may be designated by the Board of Directors. First year dues shall accompany membership applications.
- (C) Any member whose conduct shall be found prejudicial to the best interest of the Association may, after a hearing with the Board of Directors and, on their recommendation, be suspended or expelled by a vote of not less than 75% of the members of the Association, present or represented by proxy, provided, however that a two (2) week notice in writing of the proposed suspension or expulsion shall have been given to all members of the Association.
- (D) Membership is not transferable.
- (E) Individual life membership may be obtained upon payment of \$250.00 and the member shall have the rights of an associate member.
- (F) A life membership may be given, including voting rights, to any family or individual upon a unanimous vote of all members present or represented by proxy at any regular meeting if all members are notified at least two (2) weeks prior to said meeting.

**Article 4. Annual Dues**

- (A) Dues shall be set annually by a vote of the majority of the voting membership. The fiscal year (membership year) runs from January 1 thru December 31. Club dues are due and payable to AHAME on October 31 preceding the beginning of the membership year. Any members whose dues are not paid by December 10<sup>th</sup> will be charged an additional \$5.00 for Associate members and \$15.00 for Full members. Any member whose dues are not paid by December 10<sup>th</sup> shall receive no notification of future meetings after that date until dues are paid.
- (B) In order for points of any show to count towards annual awards made by this Association, one must have been a member in good standing of the Association at least five (5) days prior to the show or ride attended. Membership will not be retroactive and shall count only from the date of payment.

**Article 5. Officers**

- (A) The officers of this Association shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer or a Secretary/Treasurer. They shall be elected by a majority vote at the annual meeting (with the exception of the Secretary, which is a position appointed by the President. All officers shall be elected for a two (2) year term and hold office until successors are elected.
- (B) The duties of said Officers shall be those usually exercised by corporate designations.
- (C) The Treasurer shall pay for all legal obligations for the Association and shall account for all monies received and paid out at each meeting.
- (D) All Officers and Directors must be full members of the Arabian Horse Association (AHA) through the Arabian Horse Association, Inc of Maine. (AHAME) and dues must be paid prior to the election.

#### **Article 6. Board of Directors**

- (A) The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers and immediate past President and three (3) members at large to represent as wide a geographical area of the State of Maine as possible. The past President will serve in an advisory capacity and will be a non voting director.**
- (B) One member at large shall be elected at each annual meeting of this Association for a term of three (3) years.**
- (C) The Board of Directors shall have the general management of the affairs of the Association and may make contracts in its behalf or authorize such contracts to be made by an Officer of the Association. The Arabian Horse Association, Inc of Maine shall indemnify and hold all Directors, Officers and committee members harmless from all liabilities, obligations, claims, causes of action, of expenses of any kind. Including without limitation reasonable attorneys' fees that may arise or be incurred by them as a result of the performance of their duties for or on behalf of the Arabian Horse Association, Inc of Maine., to the full extent under Maine law.**
- (D) At all meetings of the Board of Directors, five (5) of its members shall constitute a quorum.**
- (E) If a Board of Directors member misses two meetings in a calendar year their tenure on the board will be reviewed by the remaining Board of Directors members. Subsequent resignation may be required pending review.**
- (F) Any vacancy on the board of Directors, whether of an Officer or a member at large, shall be filled by appointment of the remaining members of the Board of Directors for the unexpired term.**

#### **Article 7. Meetings**

- (A) The annual meeting of this Association shall be held in November, at which time Officers will be elected. In the event that a quorum is not present, the next meeting of the Association shall be considered an annual meeting. All Officers elected shall take office immediately after the annual meeting.**
- (B) Regular meetings of the members shall be held monthly in October, November, February and April on the third Sunday of each month, unless otherwise specified. The location of the next meeting to be held will be designated by the Secretary and the Secretary shall notify all members in writing at least two (2) weeks in advance of each meeting.**
- (C) Special meetings of the members may be called by the President and a written notice thereby shall be mailed five (5) days prior to the meeting.**
- (D) Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held before the regular meetings of the members or upon call of the President upon five (5) days notice or at any time by consent of all of the Directors.**
- (E) Seven (7) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a regular meeting.**
- (F) The By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the Association by a vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members present or represented by proxy, provided that a two (2) week notice in writing of the proposed amendment shall have been given to all members of the Association.**

#### **Article 8. Proxy**

**Voting by signed proxy shall be permitted.**

#### **Article 9. Monies Received**

**Any monies received from any project sponsored by the Association shall be turned over to the Treasurer for said Treasurer to pay all bills contracted from any project. All bills are to be paid in the regular manner covered by Article . Section ©**

#### **Article 10.**

**No part of the net earnings of this Association shall accrue or be distributable to any member or private person, except at the Association shall be authorized to pay reasonable compensation for**

services rendered. Upon dissolution of the Association and after paying and making provisions for all liabilities of the Association, the Association shall dispose of all assets of the Association to another organization having like purposes and which is exempt organization pursuant to section 01 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 9or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Service law.

Article 11.'The foregoing by-laws supersede all other By-Laws and amendments of the Association thereto and shall void any prior By-Laws of the Association in conflict with those By-Laws that were enacted or voted on prior to the acceptance of the foregoing articles.

**Article 12.**

As a member organization of the Arabian Horse Association, the Arabian Horse Association, Inc of Maine is a member club of Region 16, which consists of New York and t he six New England States. As such, the appointed delegates and alternate for the AHA convention shall serve on the Board of Delegates for Region 16 for a term of one (1) year. The delegates and alternate will be appointed by the Board of Directors. To support budgeted regional Activities, as authorized by the Board of Delegates, an annual assessment will be paid to the Regional Treasurer based on membership as determined for AHA purposes July 1<sup>st</sup> of the preceding year.