

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. NAME:

The name of the association shall be the MAINE TRAIL RIDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE:

The purpose of said corporation are to encourage, foster, cultivate and promote the art of horsemanship; to engage in, promote, sponsor, and conduct trail rides with horses and ponies; to conduct, engage in, sponsor, and participate in sporting events, exhibitions, parades, fairs, and shows have activities involving the use of horses and ponies; to encourage and promote proper equestrian etiquette and sportsmanship in group riding; to promote, encourage, and cultivate the proper care, handling, riding, and training of horses; and to cooperate, exchange information, and participate in activities with associations, clubs, and corporations organized for similar purposes. To purchase, lease, hold, sell, develop, mortgage, convey, or otherwise acquire or dispose of real and personal property necessary or proper for the carrying out of the above stated purposes. Generally, to do any and all other acts and to undertake and engage in, transact, and carry on any and all kinds of business that may be lawfully carried on by corporations organized and existing under title 13, Chapter 81 of the Maine Revised Statutes and amendments thereto. Said Corporation shall not be conducted for profit nor shall any officer or director receive any salary, wage, commission, or dividend therefrom nor shall any of the same or any other individual profit from the operations of this Corporation's affairs or business. In no event, shall any net income inure for the benefit of any private individual.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP:

A person will become eligible for membership when he/she has submitted a written application accompanied with proper membership fee to the Secretary of the Association.

All junior members, under 18 years of age, who are not part of a family membership will pay junior dues.

Only members who are 18 years of age or older may vote in Association meetings. Juniors may vote only at Junior meetings.

ARTICLE IV. DUES:

Sec. 1. All membership dues will be in the amount of \$35.00 family (which includes husband/wife/significant other and all children who are full-time students under the age of 23 as of January 1), \$25.00 individual (all adults over 18 years of age as of January 1), and \$20.00 junior per year, payable on or before January 1, of ensuing year.

Sec. 2. New members (a person who has not belonged previously) joining on or after October 1, will have membership coverage from then through the following calendar year.

Sec. 3. A member will be delinquent on dues when they are 2 months in arrears after January 1, and will be dropped from membership roll at the next meeting after notification in the Hoofbeats.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS:

Sec. 1. The officers of this association shall be as follows: PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, and will be elected annually by the membership.

Sec. 2. Duties of Officers:

- a) Duties of the PRESIDENT: are to preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Directors; to appoint all committees herein and hereafter provided for unless otherwise ordered by the Directors: to call such meetings as are herein provided for to be called by him/her; and to make reports as herein provided or by the Board of Directors. He/She shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the Nominating Committee. He/She shall sign, together with the Secretary all contract and obligations of the Association, unless some other person be designated or otherwise authorized by the Board of Directors, and shall perform such other and further duties as may be required of him/her by laws or by order of the Board of Directors.
- b) Duties of the VICE PRESIDENT: In case of absence or disqualification of the President, the Vice President shall assume the responsibilities of the President.
- c) Duties of the SECRETARY: The Secretary shall give notice of all meetings to the members and to the Directors, and shall take the minutes of such meetings, and shall keep the correspondence and all records of the Association. He/She shall furnish to the Treasurer names of all members and perform such other duties as the Directors may from time to time assign the Secretary.
- d) Duties of the TREASURER: The Treasurer shall pay all bills upon order of the President after approval of the membership. He/She shall receive all monies for membership dues from the Secretary and shall have the care and custody of, and responsibility for the fund of the Association, which he/she shall deposit in the name of the Association, in such bank as the Board of Directors shall designate. He/She shall keep proper books of accounts; he/she shall make a full financial report whenever requested by the Board of Directors. The treasurer is also responsible for getting funds to the committee as requested by such committee and approved by the membership.

Sec. 3. Nomination:

Before each annual meeting the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee which shall prepare and submit a list of nominees for the elective offices at the appropriate time during the annual meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor by any member of the Association in good standing.

Sec. 4. Elections:

Election of officers shall take place at the annual meeting of the Association and the newly elected officers shall take office immediately before adjournment of such meeting. If there shall be more than one nominee for any office, a written ballot shall be taken for that office.

ARTICLE VI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The Board of Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting by the members and shall not exceed nine in number exclusive of those that are members ex-officio, at the first annual meeting three of the members shall be elected for a term of one year, three for a term of two years, and three for a term of three years. At each annual meeting thereafter, the members will elect three for three years. A retiring President shall automatically become a member ex-officio of the Board of Directors for the three years following his/her retirement unless a majority vote of the membership deems otherwise. Election for the Board of Directors shall be by secret ballot of the members; each vacancy shall be acted upon individually. The duties of the Board of Directors are the general management of the affairs of the Association. The Directors shall have the power to make and enforce rules and regulations governing the Association. At all meetings of the board of Directors, five members shall constitute a quorum. The Directors may fill any vacancy in the Board of Directors occurring during the year by the election of a member until the next annual meeting of the Association and until a successor shall be elected for the unexpired term. Any vacancy in the year may be filled by the board of Directors and the person elected shall hold office until the next annual election. The Board of Directors shall keep a record of its proceedings and shall report at the annual meeting of the Association or at any special meeting of the Association, any matters which require the action of the members. The President and or two Directors shall have the power to call a meeting of the board of Directors. The Directors must be given a written notice at least five days prior to the meeting. Any members of the Board of Directors missing more than two consecutive meetings without notification to the Secretary and without a reasonable excuse will automatically be dropped from the Board.

All members of the Board of Directors are required to attend four general meetings in a year, December to November or they will be removed at the annual meeting for the election of officers.

ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:

Sec. 1. Annual Meeting: The annual meeting shall be held on the second Saturday in November unless otherwise voted by the membership.

Sec. 2. Regular Meetings: A regular meeting will be held on the second Saturday of each month.

By a majority vote of the membership at a regular monthly meeting this day may be changed to accommodate any confliction of dates. Change of meeting day due to poor weather conditions to be at the discretion of the President.

Sec. 3. Special meeting shall be called by the President of the Association or two members of the Board of Directors provided all eligible members are given a seven (7) day notice.

Sec. 4. A quorum of eight members shall be present to conduct any business meeting with a majority vote necessary to pass any motion.

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEE:

Sec. 1. All Standing Committees shall consist of not less than three (3) members. In making appointments to the committees, the President shall designate one person as Chair of each Committee. The duties and powers of each Committee shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Sec. 2. The Standing Committees are: Trail Riding, Hose Show, Publicity, Building and Land, Food Services, Sunshine Committee, Fund Raising, Parade, and Entertainment.

Sec 3. Unless otherwise ordered by the Board of Directors, the President shall appoint special committees.

ARTICLE IX. RULES OF ORDER.

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the parliamentary procedure of this Association in all cases of which they are applicable, when not in conflict with the By-laws or the Rules of this Association.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS:

This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose provided written notice of the proposed amendment shall have been mailed to all members at least one weeks prior to such meeting.

ARTICLE XI. DISSOLUTION:

The Club may be dissolved at any time by written consent of not less than two-thirds of the members in good standings. In the event of the dissolution of the club whether voluntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the club nor any proceeds thereof, nor any assets of the club shall be distributed to any members of the club but after payment of the debts of the club its property and assets shall be divided equally between the MAINE HORSE ASSOCIATION, INC. AND THE PINE TREE 4-H FOUNDATION or on their prior dissolvment, to a charitable organization for the benefit of horses selected by the Board of Directors.