

THE NORTH DAKOTA CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION  
BYLAWS  
As amended through 6/27/2015

**Article I – Name**

Section 1: This association shall be known as The North Dakota Cutting Horse Association, Inc.

**Article II – Purposes**

Section 1: The purpose of The North Dakota Cutting Horse Association shall be: to encourage and develop public interest in cutting horses; to encourage presentation and participation of cutting horses in shows and exhibitions; to cooperate with show sponsors and officials in securing qualified judges, to encourage the development and breeding of finer cutting horses.

**Article III – Policies**

Section 1: This shall be a non-profit organization.

Section 2: The North Dakota Cutting Horse Association shall at all times abide by and conduct contests in accordance with all the rules of the National Cutting Horse Association, and shall approve all shows within the state approved by the National Cutting Horse Association, including NCHA weekend, when held out of state. Other shows may be approved by a majority vote of the membership.

Section 3: The following classes, in addition to NCHA approved classes, will be approved by The North Dakota Cutting Horse Association at all contests it sanctions.

A: \$500 Novice Rider class for any rider that has not won more than \$500.00. Points will be awarded for placing and will be used to determine year-end awards in this class. Monies won will be used to

break any ties. The rider may ride any horse. Rider may only ride one horse.

B: \$1000 Novice Horse class for any horse than has not won more than \$1000. Rider may ride an unlimited number of horses.

C: \$250 Snaffle Bit class with no year-end awards. The horse must be shown in a snaffle bit or bosal. The snaffle bit is defined as a smooth ring type bit with a broken mouthpiece and no shanks. Ring, D-ring, and Egg butt snaffles are all permitted, but the outside rings are not to exceed 4 inches in diameter.

D. Never Won A Buckle (NCHA or an NCHA affiliate buckle) class. A point's only class, must be an NDCHA member. Rider receives one point for each person in the class that a higher score is received on and when 12 points are accumulated a buckle is won and rider is no longer eligible to compete in the class. Points won will be carried over to the next year until 12 points are accumulated.

#### Section 4:

A: Before the first approved show of each season, the BOD shall determine and publish the classes in which the year-end awards will be presented at the close of the season.

B: A member of the NDCHA must participate in 50% of the classes offered (and held at 50% of NDCHA shows) to be eligible for year-end awards during the calendar year. With the exception of the youth class. With the exception of the \$500 Novice Rider class. NCHA weekend when held out of state does not count towards the 50% rule, but monies or points won at NCHA weekend whether held in state or out; do count for final standings for awards.

C: The NDCHA calendar year shall coincide with the NCHA calendar year. Our year-end banquet may be held with the North Dakota Quarter Horse Association banquet.

D: At the discretion of the BOD, a show may offer prizes to an 'average winner' of a class. The average winner will be determined by points (the rider would receive one point for each person in the class that a higher score is received on) or money and ties broken by flip of coin.

Section 5: The total life earnings of a horse or rider as of the first day of the National Cutting Horse Association cutting year shall determine the lowest class in which the horse or rider may participate.

Section 6: Determination of bonafide ownership of a horse may be made by the Board of Directors when necessary.

Section 7: A deduction in accordance with NCHA rules shall be made from the entry fees of each class at NCHA approved shows for NCHA approved classes. The deduction from NCHA approved shows shall be sent to the NCHA.

Section 9: Two dollars (\$2.00) shall be assessed per entry in order for a show to be NDCHA approved for year-end awards.

Section 10: The following shall be the policy of the Association for cutting competitions sponsored by individual members:

A: The host shall be responsible for securing cattle.

B: Within fifty (50) days prior to the competition the host shall notify the Secretary of the Association of the judge selected and other necessary information.

C: The host shall be responsible for submitting entry fees and show results to the Secretary of the Association.

D: The host shall be responsible for the details and mechanics of the show.

## **Article IV – Membership and Dues**

Section 1: Any individual can become a voting member with all privileges of the NDCHA for one year by subscribing to the purposes of the Association and upon payment of annual dues of \$15.00 for single and \$20.00 for family membership. One vote is allowed per single membership and a family membership has two votes. Proxy votes are permitted. A family membership entitles a family to all awards and shall cover the holder, his or her spouse and minor children. Age of youth determined as per NCHA rules.

A: Any person entering a NDCHA event as an owner and/or rider must be an NDCHA member and said membership can be automatically charged at a show.

Section 2: The annual dues shall be paid prior to the business session of the annual meeting or at the first cutting, whichever comes first. Money or points earned at NDCHA approved cuttings will not count until dues have been paid. Money or points won prior to payment of annual dues does not count for the final year-end standings.

Section 3: A membership may be terminated for any cause which the BOD shall deem sufficient, under the following procedure: The BOD may, by three-fourths vote of those present at a regular BOD meeting, ask for the resignation of a member. If such resignation is not received within 30 days thereafter, said member may be dropped by a three-fourths vote of the Directors present at any regular meeting, providing said three-fourths shall in no case be less than the majority of the whole board. Unanimous vote of those Directors present at any Board meeting may terminate a membership at any time; provided that notice of the proposed action had been mailed to all Board members at least 5 days in advance. Any member suspended from the NCHA is also suspended from the NDCHA.

## **Article V – Government**

Section 1: The entire management and government of this Association, except as otherwise expressly provided herein, shall be vested in the Board of Directors. The BOD shall speak for the Association.

## **Article VI – Board of Directors**

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall consist of nine members; each shall serve a term of three years with three members being elected each year. A member of the Board shall be a member of the NDCHA and NCHA.

- a. The North Dakota Cutting Horse Association board of directors shall contain a category of “Director Emeritus”, in recognition of the individual who has, in the past, served NDCHA faithfully as an Elected Director, which category shall be designated with lifetime tenure and voting privileges, on the following basis: The individual who has reached the age of 65 years, having served the previous ten (10) consecutive years as an Elected Director. Upon reaching his/her 65<sup>th</sup> birthday, he/she will continue as an Elected Director, until the next Annual Membership Meeting, whereupon he/she will automatically be elevated to Director Emeritus, thereby, creating a vacancy to be filled by the election of a Elected Director.

Section 2: Any vacancy on the BOD shall be filled by appointment by the remaining board members until the annual meeting when the membership shall elect a director to fill the unexpired term.

Section 3: The Board of Directors shall hold meetings at the call of the President of the Association. Five (5) of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

## **Article VII – Officers and Duties**

Section 1: The Officers of the Association shall be a President and a Vice-President, which shall be elected by the Board of Directors from the Board. Also, a Secretary/Treasurer whom shall be appointed by the Board and need not be a member of the Board.

Section 2: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors, and will have general supervision of the affairs of

the Association. The President shall be the ex-officio member of all committees with the exception of the nominating committee.

Section 3: The Vice-President shall act in the absence of the President and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President of the Board of Directors.

Section 4: The Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping corporate records, conducting correspondence, and keeping roll of the members. He/she shall have general charge of the finances of the Association and shall supervise accounts and have available reports for the Board of Directors, and shall make a report to the membership annually. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping records of the points won in approved cutting horse contests, reporting results of approved contests to the National Cutting Horse Association, and securing national approval for North Dakota Association cutting contests.

#### **Article VIII – Elections**

Section 1: The annual election of officers and directors shall be held at the annual meeting. A reorganizational meeting of directors shall be held immediately after the annual meeting.

Section 2: Approximately 60 days before the annual elections, the Board of Directors shall appoint a nominating committee of three members consisting of one member from the Board whose term is not expiring and two members from the general membership. The nominating committee shall make known its nominations for the election to the general membership not less than 30 days before the election.

Section 3: Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the time of the elections. A paid up current member unable to attend the annual meeting may send or mail a proxy.

#### **Article IX – Notice of meetings**

Section 1: Notice of special, regular, and annual meetings shall be published to include either mailing, newsletter or email to the members at

least seven (7) days prior to the day such meeting is held. Meetings shall be called by the President or on the order of the Board of Directors. A Board of Directors meeting can be called by the majority of the Board.

### **Article X – Committees**

Section 1: The president shall have the power to appoint standing committees as he deems proper except as herein otherwise provided. The appointment of the standing committee chairman shall be subject to confirmation of the Board. He shall have the power to appoint other committees as needs arise.

### **Article XI – Amendments to the Bylaws**

Section 1: These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the Association by a simple majority vote of the members present and voting, providing due notice has been given that this will be a part of the order of business, and providing the amendment is not inconsistent with the Articles of the Incorporation.

### **Article XII – Rules of Order**

Section 1: Roberts Rule of Order (revised) shall govern all proceedings of all meetings of the Association, of BOD, and of Committees, insofar as they do not conflict or are not inconsistent with the provisions of these bylaws.

Section 2: The order of business at all meetings shall be:

- A: Meeting called to order
- B: Roll call
- C: Reading and approval of minutes
- D: Treasurer's report
- E: Reports of Officers and Committees
- F: Old business
- G: Election of Officers
- H: New business
- I: Adjournment

Section 3: The membership present shall constitute a quorum. Any business will pass on a simple majority.

Section 4: The Board of Directors shall review the bylaws prior to the annual meeting.

This amended version of the North Dakota Cutting Horse Association Bylaws supersedes all previous bylaws and amendments.