

**BY-LAWS OF  
THE OHIO CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION  
JULY 28, 2017 APPROVED CHANGES**

**ARTICLE 1  
OVERVIEW**

**SECTION 1**

This Association shall be known as The Ohio Cutting Horse Association Inc., a 501C3 non-profit organization.

**SECTION 2**

The purpose of The Ohio Cutting Horse Association is to encourage and stimulate the development of, and public interest in cutting and the cutting horse, in and around the state of Ohio. This will be done through:

- sanctioning, promoting, and sponsoring public cutting horse contests
- the presentation and participation of cutting horse events in exhibitions and shows
- annual recognition of member's accomplishments and OCHA's champions
- tracking standings for members

**SECTION 3**

The Ohio Cutting Horse Association Inc. is an affiliate with the National Cutting Horse Association and will follow its rules of showing.

**SECTION 4**

The official business and administrative address of The Ohio Cutting Horse Association shall be the address of the designated Secretary of The Ohio Cutting Horse Association.

**SECTION 5**

The fiscal year of the Association shall be January 1 through December 31.

**ARTICLE II  
OFFICERS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEE CHAIRS, AND DUTIES**

**SECTION 1**

The President, Vice President, and Trustees shall be elected by the majority vote of members in good standing.

Term expirations will be listed on all official listings and contact lists.

**SECTION 2**

The Officers of the Association shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

The office of President and Vice President shall be required to be members in good standing with The Ohio Cutting Horse Association and the National Cutting Horse Association. The President and Vice President must have been an Ohio Cutting Horse Association member for 2 years and an Ohio Cutting Horse Association Trustee for 1 year. The President and Vice President are not required to be an Ohio resident.

The Secretary and Treasurer are nominated by the President and approved by the majority vote of the Board.

The positions of Secretary and Treasurer can be held by the same person. The Secretary and Treasurer will be determined at the January Boarding meeting. The Secretary and/or Treasurer will not have voting privileges unless they are elected Trustees.

### **SECTION 3**

Term of office:

President: 2 years

Vice President: 2 years

Secretary: 2 years

Treasurer: 2 years

### **SECTION 4**

Roles and Responsibilities: President

- Chairs all meetings of The Ohio Cutting Horse Association and the Board of Trustees
- Shall appoint all special and standing committees
- Shall conduct business of the Association in accordance with the By-Laws of The Ohio Cutting Horse Association.
- Shall be ex-officio member of all committees.
- May appoint, with Board approval, Trustees for specifically assigned duties.

Roles and Responsibilities: Vice President

- Shall perform the duties of the President when the President is absent from any meetings of the members of the Board of Trustees

Roles and Responsibilities: Secretary

- Issues notification of the Board and members of upcoming meetings.
- Documents meeting attendance, meeting proceedings, and business decisions.
- Summarizes Board meetings proceedings for publication on the OCHA website.
- Conducts and supervises the election process, in conjunction with the Treasurer counts and records balloting for annual elections.
- Maintains membership forms
- Issues membership cards
- Maintains official OCHA letterhead
- Manages annual NCHA compliance process

Roles and Responsibilities: Treasurer

- Maintain all financial records for the OCHA
- Produce monthly detailed financial statements for Board meeting review and approval
- Produce quarterly financial statements for inclusion in official OCHA records
- In conjunction with the Secretary counts and records balloting for annual elections.

### **SECTION 5**

There will be a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of 12 Trustees, including Lifetime Directors (LTD).

The immediate past President shall automatically be a member of the Board of Trustees for the succeeding year and have a vote in organization decisions.

A Trustee missing three (3) meetings unexcused will be dropped from the Board of Trustees.

Trustee term of office: 2 years

The OCHA President may appoint 1 Trustee to fulfill specific duties. Appointments are approved by majority vote of the Board. Appointees will serve a maximum of 1 year and have full voting privileges as a member of the Board. Appointments expire on December 31 of the year appointed.

#### **SECTION 6**

The positions of standing committee chairs and Points Secretary are appointed by a majority vote of the Board.

Term of office: 2 years

#### **SECTION 7**

Meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Association shall be called as required by the President and shall require a quorum (majority) of the Officers and Trustees to transact business.

All Officers and Trustees shall have one (1) vote except for President who shall vote only in the case of a tie.

### **ARTICLE III ELECTION PROCESS**

#### **SECTION 1**

Call for candidates: notification of the upcoming election, the process for being included on the ballot, and qualification requirements will be communicated to all members in good standing by the Secretary.

Call for candidates will be via e-mail, posted to the OCHA website, and social media.

Any member in good standing may submit their name for inclusion on the ballot for the Presidency and Vice Presidency and expiring regular Trustee positions, provided they meet the requirements for the position.

President, Vice President, and Trustee positions will be filled by the candidates receiving the highest number of votes. Ties will be broken by majority vote of the President, Vice President, and Lifetime Directors.

Candidates commit to attend meetings and to participate on at least one committee or project.

#### **SECTION 2**

Ballots will be sent out to all members in good standing, by postal mail prior to the annual banquet, to be held no later than the last week in January, weather permitting.

The ballot order of priority shall be President, Vice President, and the regular Trustee positions whose term expires on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

Ballots will have space available for write-in candidates. All write-in candidates are required to meet the requirements of these by-laws. Participants will include the OCHA Secretary and Treasurer.

Candidates on the ballot cannot be involved in the election process, including counting of ballots.

Election winners will be expected to participate in the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Board meeting of the new year.

### **ARTICLE IIII MEMBERS**

#### **SECTION 1**

Any individual, regardless of whether he or she owns or rides a cutting horse may make application for membership.

#### **SECTION 2**

Each member shall pay membership dues. The amount is to be determined annually by the Board of Trustees. Members failing to pay annual dues will be considered delinquent and forfeit all rights and benefits of the Association.

#### **SECTION 3**

Membership cards shall be issued to members upon request. Membership cards are non-transferable.

#### **SECTION 4**

The annual meeting of the members of The Ohio Cutting Horse Association shall be held at the time and place designated by the Board. Members will be notified via social media, e-mail, or postal mail.

#### **SECTION 5**

Special meetings of the membership may be called by the President at any time and place on reasonable notice to all members.

#### **SECTION 6**

The order of business of any meeting of the members shall be at the discretion of the presiding officer.

#### **SECTION 7**

Each member is entitled to one vote. There shall be no proxy votes in this Association.

#### **SECTION 8**

Any member who shall make himself or herself a nuisance by constant complaints, fault finding, or harassing any member of the Board of Trustees or Officer because of real or fancied grievances may be dropped from the membership at the direction of the Board of Trustees. If such action is taken his or her membership fee shall be returned and all privileges of the Association denied thereafter.

### **ARTICLE V POINTS AND HORSE CLASSES**

### **SECTION 1**

Show results will not be counted toward annual awards until the dues for that year have been paid.

### **SECTION 2**

Classification of monies or points accumulated by the riders and horses shall be under the rules utilized by The National Cutting Horse Association.

### **SECTION 3**

To qualify for the OCHA year-end awards, riders and all registered owners must be members of The Ohio Cutting Horse Association. If there is a transfer in ownership of the horse during the show season, the new owner(s) of OCHA for the winnings after the transfer to count for year end awards for that year. To ensure the correct tracking of results it is the responsibility of the new owner to report the change in ownership to the OCHA Standings Secretary.

### **SECTION 4**

Before the start of the annual show season the OCHA Board of Trustees will establish the list of approved classes that will be included in the annual awards program for that year. The list of approved classes will be posted to the OCHA website.

### **SECTION 5**

The annual awards for OCHA Top 10 Earning Horses will be based on monies won by the horses during that show season. Monies counted for OCHA Top 10 Earning Horses must be won in weekend, NCHA-approved classes at Ohio Cutting Horse Association approved shows. Limited age monies will not count toward annual OCHA Top 10 Earning Horses.

### **SECTION 6**

The awards for winners among the various classes shall be designated each year by the Board of Trustees.

### **SECTION 7**

OCHA annual awards will be based on the NCHA show structure and programs in place at the beginning of the show season. If the NCHA introduces a new show structure/program or changes an existing structure/program during the show season it will be at the discretion of the Board to allow the results from these shows to be included in the OCHA annual awards program.

### **SECTION 8**

Standings will reflect totals that are kept by The Ohio Cutting Horse Association. These standings may include results that have not yet reached the NCHA offices. Year-to-date results must equal the sum of the results from the competitions tracked on the OCHA standings spreadsheet.

## **ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS**

The By-Laws may be repealed, modified, amended, or adopted at any regular meeting of the Association or at any special meeting of the members if due notice has been given that this will be a part of the order of business.