

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF
NEW MEXICO QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION
(AS OF NOVEMBER 2010)**

**ARTICLE 1
NAME AND OBJECTIVES**

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the New Mexico Quarter Horse Youth Association hereafter referred to as NMQHYA. This organization shall be a division of the New Mexico Quarter Horse Association. It shall operate within the scope of the by-laws, rules and regulations of the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA), the American Quarter Horse Youth Association (AQHYA) and the New Mexico Quarter Horse Association (NMQHA).

Section 2: The objectives and purposes of the NMQHYA shall be as follows:

To improve and promote the American Quarter Horse breed.

To improve and develop capabilities of youth, both individually and through group participation, in breeding, raising, and exhibition of Quarter Horses.

To improve and develop youth participation in scholarship, leadership, sportsmanship, and community interest.

To establish a means whereby youth members may work in conjunction with the NMQHA and The AQHYA.

**ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: The Youth must be eligible for membership in the American Quarter Horse Youth Association.

Section 2: Youth Voting Power: Any person actively interested in Quarter Horses who is not more than (18) years of age on January 1 of the membership year is eligible to become a member of this organization.

Section 3: Voting Privileges: Members shall have the privilege of voting at NMQHYA meetings and elections; provided, however, that no such member shall be delinquent by reason of non-payment of dues shall be entitled to vote while delinquency continues.

Section 4: Membership Dues: An annual fee of \$30.00 shall be paid for each annual membership \$10.00 of which is transferred to the youth association. The fee shall be due and payable on November 1 of each year, though a person may join on any date of the membership year. All memberships end on October 31 of the following year regardless of the date dues were paid.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section 1: Annual Membership Meeting: The annual membership meeting and convention shall be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the New Mexico Quarter Horse Association, unless otherwise ordered by the NMQHA Board of Directors, for the receiving of the annual reports of the previous year and the transactions of other business. Written notice of the annual membership meeting shall be provided to all paid NMQHYA members no later than thirty (30) days in advance of the scheduled meeting.

Section 2: Special Meetings: A special meeting of the NMQHYA may be called by the president, advisor, or Board of Directors to deal with regular business and/or special problems. Written notice of a special membership meeting shall be provided to all paid NMQHYA members no later than seven (7) days in advance of the scheduled meeting.

Section 3: Quorum: A Quorum shall consist of the number of members present at any meeting of which notice is given, provided however that in no instance shall a quorum consist of less than eight (8) members.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of the association shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sentinel. All of these officers will be elected by the youth members of the NMQHYA at the annual membership meeting and convention meeting of the New Mexico Quarter Horse Association.

Each officer of the NMQHYA shall hold office for a term of one (1) year beginning the first day of January after election, or until a successor is elected.

Section 2: Powers and Duties of Officers

President: The president shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and shall have general direction and charge of the conduct and operation of the Association; subject to the authority the NMQHYA Board of Directors and the NMQHA Board of Directors. The President shall appoint all committees of the NMQHYA, shall have power to execute all documents of every nature in its behalf; shall see that the resolutions and orders of the NMQHYA Board of Directors are carried into effect, and shall preside as chairperson at all meetings of the members and of the NMQHYA Board of Directors. The President shall have such other and further duties and authority as may be prescribed elsewhere in this constitution, or possibly as prescribed by the NMQHA Board of Directors.

Vice President: The Vice President shall in the absence, disability, or inability to act as the President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President and shall perform such other duties as the President shall possible prescribe.

Secretary: The Secretary shall perform the secretarial duties of the Association including the recording and distributing of the minutes of all meetings of the Association to the officers, the NMQHYA Board of Directors, the Youth Committee of the NMQHA and the President of NMQHA. The Secretary shall be responsible for appointing a substitute secretary if attendance of a meeting cannot be met.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect dues and conduct the financial business of the Association. The NMQHA Central Office will do the formal book keeping for the Association. The Treasurer shall request and keep monthly financial statements, manage incoming and outgoing monies and make periodic reports as to the financial condition of the Association to the NMQHYA Board of Directors and the Youth Committee of the NMQHA. A copy of the financial status of the Association shall be provided to each NMQHYA member at the annual meeting and convention of the NMQHYA.

Sentinel: The Sentinel shall have the responsibility of overseeing the procedures and conduct of each NMQHYA general meeting and/or Board of Directors meeting to insure the proper procedures and codes of conduct are used. The Sentinel shall keep the historical records of the NMQHYA and serve as the historian for the Association. The Sentinel may have other duties as prescribed by the President of the NMQHYA and or the NMQHYA Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: The NMQHYA Board of Directors shall consist of a minimum of seven (7) members of the youth membership in good standing. Past presidents will be ex-officio member of the NMQHYA Board of Directors with voting privileges until such time as they reach the age that they are no longer eligible for youth membership.

Section 2: Term of Office: The NMQHYA Board of Directors shall serve for a period of one (1) year with a term of office expiring January 1 of the following year or until a successor is elected.

Section 3: Duties of the Directors: Duties of the NMQHYA Board of Directors shall be to act on all matters of the youth membership affiliate of the NMQHA. They shall review the rules of the association governing their responsibilities and whenever deemed necessary, make recommendations to the NMQHA Board for modification of the rules and shall perform such other duties as the President shall direct.

Section 4: Vacancies: Any vacancy that may occur on the youth Board by reason of resignation or otherwise may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board for the un-

expired term, or by a replacement selected by the remaining board members to fill the un-expired term. Such replacement must fill the requirements stated in section one of this article. The un-expired term which the replacement fills will count as one full term for that member.

Section 5: Quorum: A majority, four (4) members of the whole NMQHYA Board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the youth Board.

Section 6: Absence: Any member of the NMQHYA Board of Directors unable to attend a board meeting shall inform the president stating the reason of absence. If a director is absent for three (3) board meetings for reasons that the NMQHYA Board of Directors declares to be insufficient, his/her resignation will be deemed to have been tendered and accepted and the board will then fill the vacancy in accordance with these by-laws.

Section 7: Powers of the Board: The NMQHYA Board of Directors shall have the power and authority to direct the affairs of the organization, including, but not limited to, the right to make, amend and repeal the constitution of the organization, the admission, classification, qualification, suspension, and expulsion of members, removal of officers, expenditure of money and other details relating to the general purposes of the organization, subject to the approval of the youth advisor and the NMQHA Board of Directors.

Section 8: Election: the youth members of the NMQHYA shall elect the NMQHYA Board of Directors at the annual membership meeting and convention.

ARTICLE VI MEETINGS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: Regular Meetings: The NMQHYA Board of Directors shall meet when deemed necessary; but should meet at least twice yearly to review the operation of the Association and its activities.

Section 2: Special Meetings: Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called at any time by the President, Youth Advisor or by written request of the Board of Directors personally with at least seventy-two (72) hours-notice before such dates is fixed. The proposed agenda for such a special meeting must be expressed in notice of the meeting.

Section 3: Place of Business: The NMQHYA Board of Directors will meet where ever deemed necessary upon receipt of written notice.

ARTICLE VII YOUTH COMMITTEE

Section 1: The Youth Committee of the New Mexico Quarter Horse Youth Association shall be the same as the Youth Committee of the New Mexico Quarter Horse Association and shall consist of a Chairman and two co-chairmen appointed by the President of NMQHA. The number of committee members shall be determined by the President and/or Directors of NMQHA.

Section 2: Objectives: The Objectives of the Youth Committee shall be as follows:

To advise and counsel the Youth Association on all Programs and activities.

To encourage the highest ethics and sportsmanship.

To coordinate the World Team Program.

To assist in fund raising activities.

To work with 4-H and FFA to expand membership.

Section 3: Powers and Duties: The powers and duties of the Youth Committee shall be determined by the President and Directors of NMQHA and as otherwise prescribed in these By-Laws.

ARTICLE VIII MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1: Youth Advisor: The membership of the NMQHA will elect a Youth Advisor at the annual meeting and convention of the NMQHA. The term of the Youth Advisor shall be for one year. The Youth Advisor will oversee the activities of the NQHYA, be responsible to oversee the business dealing of the Association, report to the NQHA Board of Directors on the activities and business of the Association, coordinate the activities of the Association and perform other duties of youth advisor as prescribed by the American Quarter Horse Youth Association.

Section 2: Any member of the Association who is unruly or disorderly at any Association meeting or Association sponsored function shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors and the Youth Committee. In all such cases, the Board of Directors and the Youth Committee shall have the power, after due hearing, to suspend or revoke the membership of the offending person or persons.

Section 3: The fiscal year of the Association shall be the Calendar year.

Section 4: Amendments: These By-Laws may be amended or altered, in whole or in part by a majority vote of the number of Directors comprising the Board of Directors or by the vote of a majority of the members of the Association entitled to vote at any meeting or special meeting of the members providing that any amendment of the By-Laws changing the number of directors comprising the Board or the time or place of election date on which any election of Directors will

take place, must be made at least sixty (60) days before the date on which any election of Directors is held, and notice of such change must be given at least twenty (20) days before the election is held, in person, or by letter mailed to his/her last known address as shown in the record of the Association.

Section 5: Waiver of Notice: Whenever under the provisions of these By-Laws, or of the law, the Directors or any committee are authorized to hold any meeting after notice, a written waiver of notice, signed by the person or persons entitled to notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent to notice.

Section 6: Year End Awards: Year End awards shall be made in accordance with rules approved by the Board of Directors and the Youth Committee. Such rules shall be published and disseminated to the membership annually. Rules governing such awards may be modified as circumstances necessitate and as approved by the Board of Directors, and the Youth Committee, and the NMQHA Board.