

**GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS OF
TEXAS QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION PROCEDURE FOR
NOMINATION OF DIRECTORS**

**Revised and Approved by the Board of Directors – September 12, 2018
Approved by the General Membership – January 26, 2019**

1. Before an individual is eligible to be nominated for Director from the floor of the membership meeting, his name and membership credentials shall first be presented to the Nominating Committee in writing at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Associations Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee shall meet and deliberate (whether by teleconference or otherwise) prior to the Association's Annual Meeting to consider the credentials of those individuals whose names have been submitted for nomination for election to the Board of Directors from the floor at the Annual Membership Meeting.

At the General Membership Business Meeting, the chairman of the Nominating Committee shall present the committee's slate of nominations for Directors, and thereafter, nominations from the floor will be received by the Presidents, upon verification from the chairman that the individual being nominated from the floor has been previously presented to the Nominating Committee for consideration. Nominations from the floor will be received in opposition to a particular individual nominated on the Committee's slate, and not in opposition to the entire slate.

STANDING COMMITTEES

2. The standing committees of the Association are:

- Halter & Performance Committee
- Race Committee
- Youth Committee
- Long-Range Planning Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Finance Committee
- Conduct Committee

3. Each standing committee will consist of not less than seven (7) members unless expressly set out differently in these General Rules and Regulations.

4. Standing committee members, with the exception of the Long-Range

Planning Committee, shall be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.

5. The Long-Range Planning Committee shall consist of six (6) members of the organization plus the current President. The members shall be appointed by the President for a two year term. The terms shall be staggered with at least two members being replaced each year. A member may be reappointed by the President when his term has expired. It is recommended the Committee be comprised of a combination of Past Presidents, older members, younger members and a representation from a cross section of interests in Quarter Horse activities.

6. Each standing committee shall be headed by a chairman, assisted by a vice-chairman, appointed by the President. The chairman shall vote only in the case of a tie vote concerning committee action. The vice-chairman shall only vote as a tie-breaker as described above.

7. The President shall appoint a Conduct Committee as required. Such committee should normally consist of three or more members and should include representation from the membership to include expertise or experience relating to the complaint.

8. The Executive Committee of the Association shall serve as the Finance Committee with the President serving as chairman.

MEMBERSHIP

9. Membership shall consist of four categories: Founding, Life, 3 year and Annual Memberships. Membership shall not be limited to natural persons, but may include corporations, firms, institutions of learning, executors, administrators, and trustees. Adequate evidence of membership and proper receipts shall be issued upon acceptance of fees.

10. Membership in the Association is a privilege, not a right; application for which shall be made on forms and by fees and procedures prescribed from time to time by the Association. Membership, or application therefore, may be terminated or rejected by the Executive Committee or Board of Directors for cause detrimental to the interest of the harmonious relationships of its members as determined by the Executive Committee or Board. Termination or

application rejection proceedings under this paragraph shall be conducted under the Association's disciplinary procedure for notice or rejection shall be denial or the privileges of the Association as set forth in Association disciplinary procedures.

11. The name under which a membership may be obtained will be limited to 30 characters, (letters, spaces, and marks of punctuation).

12. The application for membership should indicate clearly the name in which the membership is to be recorded.

13. The name of a female member may be changed in the membership records of the Association to reflect her current marital status. Such change shall be made upon request of said member.

14. General privileges and responsibilities of members and non-members are as follows:

a. While in good standing, all members shall have equal rights, interests, and responsibilities with respect to the Association and its property; shall obey and be bound by a bylaws, rules and regulations of the association and decisions or actions of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee; shall have the right to vote by personal attendance at membership meetings; and shall have the right to hold office and committee assignments, except as otherwise limited.

b. In regard to individuals who are non-members but participate in Association approved events, by such actions and in regard to such transactions do thereby agree to be bound by all bylaws, rules and regulations of the Association and decisions and actions of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee.

c. Although the right or privilege of a member or non-member to seek judicial review of previous Association decisions or actions is recognized, that member by joining the association, or non-member participating in Association events, does thereby agree, if unsuccessful in the attempt to overturn Association decisions, actions, rules or regulations, to reimburse the Association for its reasonable attorney's fees, court costs, and other expenses in defense of such suit.

15. A Founder's donation of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5000) is required for

founding Membership, but no annual fees are required. A Life Member donation of \$500 is required, but no annual fees are required.

16. Neither a Founding Membership nor a Life Membership is transferable, but may be carried in the joint names of husband and wife, and the survivor of them through death or divorce shall be entitled to amend the membership's name to correctly reflect the survivor's status by filing with the Association copy of judicial decree, written evidence of death, or written instrument of consent signed by the terminating spouse.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

17. The membership fees shall be set by the Executive Committee. Any change in the fee will be published in the Texas Quarter Horse Association Newsletter 60 days prior to the effective date. The fee for each renewable membership is due and payable on the first day of the month following the month of expiration and shall be considered delinquent if not paid within thirty (30) days thereafter. Notice to the members of fees payable shall be sent to members at their last known physical or email address not less than thirty (30) days prior to the month of expiration. The amount of such fees may be amended from time to time by the Executive Committee. A portion of the Annual Membership fee will be used to produce and mail or email the Texas Quarter Horse Association newsletter. Every paid member will receive each copy of the Texas Quarter Horse Association newsletter.

18. When an Annual Membership becomes delinquent, the membership can be reinstated by simply paying the current year's dues. There is no penalty for reinstatement.

19. An Annual Membership is not transferable.

VIOLATIONS

20. No member shall refuse, on reasonable request, to assist the Association, its officers, committees, or agents, in locating, identifying and inspecting, or assuring the health and well-being of an animal, to answer promptly and truthfully any inquiry concerning an animal or ancestor thereof in his ownership and control. Violation of this rule may be grounds for disciplinary action.

21. Any member may be suspended and denied privileges of the association and any non-member may be denied the privileges of the Association for the failure to pay when due any obligation owing to the Association, or for giving a worthless check for entry fee, stall fees, office charges, stock charges, or any other fees or charges connected with the exhibition of horses, provided, however, that fifteen (15) days before action by the Association, written notice of the account due and the intention to suspend or withhold privileges of the Association shall be delivered to such member or non-member. When any person continues to remain suspended under this rule for a period or at least ninety (90) days, their name may be published in any publication of the Association. Any suspension and denial of privileges under this section shall terminate upon full payment of the obligation due the Association.

22. A member or non-member shall not conspire with any other person or persons to intentionally violate the rules of the Association, or to knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons, either by affirmative action or inaction, to violate the rules of the Association. Violation of this rule shall subject such member or non-member to disciplinary action, whether or not such member or non-member has actually signed reports filed with the Association asserted to be true and correct.

FRAUDULENT PRACTICES

23. All information furnished the Association as a basis for any action by the Association or any of its officers or representatives with respect to an animal must be true and correct to the best of the information and belief of the informant.

24. Any member may be disciplined, suspended, or expelled from the Association and any member or non-member may be denied any and all privileges of the Association whenever it shall have been established by satisfactory evidence that such member or non-member has violated any pertinent rule of the Association.

a. Association rules pertaining to prohibition of forbidden drugs provide for absolute responsibility for a horse's condition by an exhibitor or participant, whether or not he was actually instrumental or had knowledge of, the administration of such drug, thereby making the exhibitor or participant eligible for possible disciplinary action upon proof of the presence of such drug by laboratory analysis. This rule of procedure for disciplinary action pertains to suspensions or other sanctions, but burden of proof and

presumptions as contained in said drug rules specifically govern such drug cases.

b. Responsibility for the health and welfare of an animal rests with an exhibitor, owner or other participant, whether or not he was actually instrumental or had knowledge or inhumane treatment of an animal. Such exhibitor owner or other participant will be eligible for possible disciplinary action in the manner described below.

c. Whenever anyone shall be accused of any violation, he shall be given not less than fifteen (15) days notice of a time and place for hearing such accusation by the Executive Committee or by the Disciplinary Committee appointed by the President. At the hearing he shall have an opportunity, in his own behalf and to hear and refute evidence offered against him.

d. The decision and action of such Committee shall be final and binding on all parties.

e. Pending final hearing by the Executive Committee or such other appropriate committee, the President may, by giving written notice of his action, temporarily suspend such member, the effect of which shall be to deny him further Association privileges until the executive Committee can hear the matter and take appropriate disciplinary action.

f. When a member is disciplined, suspended or expelled, or a non-member is denied membership privileges, or when a member or non-member is temporarily suspended by the President pending hearing, the name and address of such member or non-member may be published in any publication of the Association.

g. The Executive Committee has the authority to impose a fine not to exceed \$2500 to anyone violating Texas Quarter Horse Association rules. Violators will be suspended until any fine is paid.

GENERAL NOTICE PROCEDURE

25. Every notice required by these rules and regulations may be served by delivering a copy of the notice to the person to be served, or his attorney, either in person or by mail, postage prepaid, to his last known address as it appears on the Association's records, and upon mailing, such notice shall be deemed

received by such person when it is deposited in the United States mail.

OTHER RULES AND REGULATIONS

26. The Rules and Regulations may be amended at any time by change, addition, or repeal by majority vote of the Executive Committee, but only after proposal of specific amendment shall have been submitted to an appropriate committee for study and report, or by a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee without such committee reference.

27. All TQHA programs and all future programs (be they race or show related) shall be financially self-sufficient and shall be responsible for a pro-rata portion of the general operating expenses of the TQHA.

28. The percentage of general operating costs will be determined by the size and maintenance needs of each program. **The Youth Program will be financially supported by all facets of the TQHA and will not be required to be self-sufficient.** The confirmation of fiscal soundness shall be conducted by the Executive committee during the budgeting process each fiscal year and during financial review periods of each year.