



BY-LAWS

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ARTICLE I

TITLE, OBJECTIVES, LOCATION, AFFILIATION, FISCAL YEAR

Section 1. Title: This Association shall be known as Heart of America Buckskin Horse Association, hereinafter referred to as HABHA, and shall at all times be operated and conducted as a non-profit organization in accordance with the laws of the state of Missouri, providing for such organization and by which it shall acquire all such rights granted to associations of this kind.

Section 2. Objectives: The purpose of this Association shall be to promote Buckskin, Dun, Red Dun, and Grulla/Grullo horses, ponies and mules through shows, publicity, education, promotion, and marketing.

Section 3. Location: The principal place of business shall be the address of the duly elected President or Secretary but business may be carried on at any place convenient to such members or officials as may be participating. The membership list is to be maintained and used for official HABHA business only.

Section 4. Affiliation: HABHA shall be affiliated with the American Buckskin Registry Association, Inc., herein referred to as ABRA, also with the American Quarter Horse Association, herein referred to as AQHA, and American Paint Horse Association, herein referred to as APHA. Shows will be held in accordance with and approved by ABRA and AQHA, and APHA, with AQHA rules prevailing.

Section 5. Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of this association shall be January 1st through December 31st.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility: Membership is open to individuals and businesses, breeding and/or exhibiting Buckskin, Dun, Red Dun and/or Grulla horses, ponies, and/or mules, AQHA registered horses, plus all other persons interested in HABHA. Membership fees are non-refundable.

Members of HABHA shall be admitted, retained, and expelled in accordance with such rules and regulations as the Board of Directors may, from time to time, adopt. In all matters governed by the vote of the members, each adult member that is in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote. Corporate memberships shall be entitled to one (1) vote by an individual designated in writing on the membership application.

While in good standing, all members shall have equal rights, interest, and responsibilities with respect to HABHA and its property, shall obey all bylaws, rules, and regulations of HABHA, ABRA, AQHA, and APHA; shall have the right to vote by personal attendance at membership meetings or by written proxy, and shall have the right to hold office and committee assignments, except as otherwise limited. You must be a member in good standing for one full year, or twelve (12) consecutive months to hold any elected office (see Article VIII - Charter Members).

Membership is required to be eligible for HABHA Awards. Points earned at HABHA shows will not be counted toward Awards until dues are paid in full.

Section 2. Types of Membership & Dues: The following memberships are available in HABHA:

SINGLE - \$ 25.00 – any individual that will be exhibiting equine.

FAMILY - \$ 40.00 - any individual with child/children under the age of 19 living at home; or married couple.

Nomination fee: \$35 for year end awards

ARTICLE III MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Meeting: The annual meeting shall be held at the Awards Banquet at such place and time as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Special Meetings: Special meetings of members may be held at such time and place as may be designated in the notice whenever called in writing by direction of the President or by a majority of the Board of Directors, or by notice signed by no less than twenty percent (20%) of the members in good standing. In emergency situations where this is not possible a notice will be sent to all members in good standing, by email or USPS, to the address on record indicating the nature of the emergency and the required response or action to be taken. Those members must respond within 24 hours of receipt of such notice either by email or phone. Failure to do so will be taken as consent of the proposed action.

Section 3. Notice of Meetings: Notice of each meeting briefly indicating the subject, or subjects, thereof shall be sent by USPS to the address on record of each member, by electronic mail if email address is known, and shall be posted on the HABHA website no later than 15 days prior to such meeting.

Section 4. Quorum: At any meeting of the members held in accordance with the foregoing provisions as to notice, the members attending such meeting shall constitute a quorum of the members for all purposes, unless law would require the representation of a larger number. In that case, the representation so required shall constitute a quorum. To exercise voting privileges, a member must be physically present at a meeting, or present a signed, sealed proxy vote to the Secretary or to a member of the Board of Directors prior to such meeting. Proxy votes shall pertain only to those items that have been previously published in writing in the exact form upon which they will be voted on.

Section 5. Any officer may call the meeting of the members to order, and may act as chairman of such meeting, precedence being given as follows: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. In the absence of all such officers the Board members may elect a chairperson.

The Secretary shall act as secretary of all meetings but, in his/her absence, the Directors may appoint a person to act as Secretary of such meeting.

Section 6. At all meetings of HABHA "Roberts Rules of Order" shall prevail.

ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Number of Directors: The business and property belonging to the Association shall be managed and controlled by the Board of Directors who shall report such business to the general membership. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Immediate Past President, President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Youth Director (see Article V Section 8), and five (5) Board Members elected by the members in good standing at the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Eligibility: In order to be eligible to be elected as a Director, excluding Youth Director, an individual must have attained the age of nineteen (19) years of age by January 1st of the current fiscal year and must have been a member in good standing for a period of no less than twelve (12) consecutive months preceding election.

Section 3. Elections: Election of Officers and Board Members shall be conducted at the annual meeting held at the Awards Banquet. Members in good standing shall be notified of the scheduled annual meeting no later than fifteen (15) days prior to such meeting. Such notice will include a list of elective positions to be filled and any declared candidates.

Section 4. Nominations: Candidates for elected or appointed office must announce their intention to seek office in writing to the Secretary no later than 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting to be placed on the ballot. If there are no announced candidates' nominations will be taken at the annual meeting and those nominees will be placed on the ballot.

Section 5. Voting: Voting will be by secret ballot prepared by the Secretary. The Vice-President and two (2) Board Members will conduct counting of such ballots individually. The results of such secret ballot will be announced prior to the end of the meeting. In the event that there are no nominations prior to the annual meeting voting may take place by show of hands. Only those members in good standing at the time of the election will be allowed to vote.

Section 6. Vacancies: In case of a vacancy in the Board of Directors by resignation, death, disqualification, or any other cause prior to the expiration of his/her term, the remaining Directors, by affirmative vote of a majority, may elect a successor. Those so elected shall serve until the annual election, and acceptance of the successor. No person shall hold more than one elected office at one time.

Any Director who is removed from the Board may not re-apply for any elective position for two (2) years.

Section 7. Board Meetings: The regular annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held the day of the annual members meeting, and no special notice shall be required for any such regular meeting of the Board. The Board by rule shall hold at least three (3) other regular meetings at stated times and places selected by the Board, and fifteen days' notice shall be required.

Section 8. Committees: The Board of Directors or the President may from time to time, create and empower special committees, such as Year-End Award, Show, Publicity, Fund Raiser, etc., for the club. Any member in good standing is eligible to serve on such committees.

Section 9. Absenteeism: A Director, who misses two (2) meetings during one year, except in extenuating circumstances, shall lose his/her Directorship and shall be replaced according to Article IV Sections 2 and 6 and is ineligible to run for office the following year. The Secretary upon the direction of the Board of Directors shall make notification by mail.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS, DUTIES, TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 1. Eligibility: See Article IV Section 2

Section 2. Officers: Officers of the organization shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Youth Director. All officers must maintain membership in HABHA.

Section 3. President: The President shall be elected in odd-numbered years and shall hold office for two (2) years unless he/she is re-elected. The President shall be elected from the current members in good standing. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the club and shall preside at all meetings of the membership. Along with Directors, he/she shall see that all bylaws, rules, and regulations of HABHA are enforced, and shall perform all duties prescribed by the general membership. He/she shall be ex-officio member of all committees. The president shall vote only when the Board of Directors creates a tie.

Section 4. Vice President: The Vice President shall be elected in even-numbered years and shall hold office for two (2) years unless he/she is re-elected. The Vice President shall be elected from the current members in good standing. The Vice President, in the absence of the President, shall have the powers and duties of the President and other duties as may be prescribed by the general membership. He/She shall have equal voting power with the Board of Directors, one (1) vote.

Section 5. Secretary: The Secretary shall be elected in odd-numbered years and shall hold office for two (2) years, unless he/she is re-elected. The Secretary shall be elected from the current members in good standing. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all membership, board and special meetings. He/she shall present the minutes to membership and Board meetings and shall perform other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or general membership. In the event of the Secretary's absence, the President may appoint any person to act as Secretary of the meeting. He/She shall have equal voting power with the Board of Directors, one (1) vote.

Section 6. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall hold office for two (2) years unless he/she is re-elected. The Treasurer shall be elected from persons that are currently an Officer or Board Member of HABHA and have served at least two terms as an Officer or Board Member. The Treasurer shall receive, deposit, and disburse all monies of HABHA. He/she shall account for all the monies by itemized statements, in detail

at each meeting of the general membership, or members may ask for itemized statements, in detail, upon the approval of the Board of Directors. A Treasurer report shall be given at the meetings of the membership. The Treasurer shall make all payments from the organization by check, or debit card, being signed by the Treasurer or officers appointed by the President. At any time, there is a change in the Treasurer of the organization, it shall be the duty of the incoming Treasurer to obtain from the out-going Treasurer a signed receipt for all office equipment and supplies, as well as funds on hand at the time of the change. Failure to comply will hold the out-going Treasurer responsible for any shortages later discovered. The Treasurer shall at no time forge any signature unless the President has given power of attorney. Any violation of this section by the Treasurer would mean his/her immediate removal from office and the Board of Directors would take disciplinary action. He/she shall have equal voting power with the Board of Directors, one (1) vote.

Section 7. Youth Director: One (1) to three (3) members in good standing age 18 and under will be appointed by the Board of Directors to serve as HABHA Youth Director for a period of one (1) year. Youth Director shall act as a representative of the youth members as a whole presenting matters concerning the youth members to the Board of Directors. The Youth Director should exhibit leadership, organizational and communication skills and will be relied upon to help develop a strong, active, responsible youth group within HABHA. The Youth Director will be responsible for organization of the HABHA Youth into a cohesive unit bound by all of the articles within the HABHA By-Laws. The Youth Director will be responsible for directly communicating with the Reporter such news and information as might be of interest to the youth and general membership to be included in the Newsletter. Such Youth Director shall have voting power with the Board of Directors of one (1) vote only on those matters pertaining specifically to the youth members.

Section 8. Board Members: The five (5) Board Members shall each hold office for two (2) years unless he/she is re-elected. The Board Members shall be elected from the current members in good standing. Two (2) Board Members shall be elected in odd-numbered years and three (3) Board members shall be elected in even-numbered years. Each Board Member shall have equal voting power with the Board of Directors, one (1) vote.

Section 9. Auditing of Accounts: Audit shall occur at any such time that the office of Treasurer changes hands, or every two (2) years.

Section 7. Reporter: The Reporter shall be elected in odd-numbered years and shall hold office for two (2) years, unless he/she is re-elected. The reporter shall be elected from the current members in good standing. The Reporter shall be responsible for preparation and dissemination of newsletters on a regular basis to all members in good standing via US mail, e-mail and/or publishing of such news on the HABHA web site. The Reporter shall keep a copy of all material disseminated throughout his/her term of office for archive purposes. In addition, the Reporter shall collect photographs, memorabilia and other items of interest to the general membership including, but not limited to, foal birth announcements, members' show achievements and educational achievements. He/she shall have equal voting power with the Board of Directors, one (1) vote.

ARTICLE VI

SHOWS AND SHOWING

Section 1. Horse Eligibility: HABHA horse shows are open to any person who owns and/or exhibits a horse, pony, and/or mule. In order for a horse, pony, and/or mule to be eligible to compete in any ABRA class, said horse, pony, and/or mule must be buckskin, dun, red dun, or grulla/grullo in color, and must have Tentative or Permanent ABRA Registration Papers or valid work order with a number in accordance to ABRA Rules and Regulations. ABRA Registration Papers and/or valid work orders must be presented at the show office. In order for a horse to compete in any AQHA class, said horse must have AQHA Registration Papers and must present such to show office. In order for a horse to compete in any APHA calls, said horse must have APHA Registration Papers and must present such to show office. Missouri Law requires that all horses, ponies, and/or mules have current (within 12 months) negative Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA/Coggins) papers and all out of state horses, ponies, and/or mules have current Interstate Health Papers. These papers must also be presented at the show office. All horses, ponies, and/or mules are eligible to compete in all-breed classes, regardless of color and/or breed.

Section 2. Class Designations. All classes listed on the approved show bill will be identified by one of the following:

- **ALL-BREED** - Open to all horses and exhibitors regardless of breed, registration, color, or age (except where specified on the show bill)
- **ABRA YOUTH** - Exhibitor must be a current member of ABRA, 18 years of age or younger and unmarried, and have a valid ABRA Youth membership card. Any horse exhibited by a Youth in ABRA Youth classes must be registered with ABRA and must be owned by the youth or by an accepted relative according to the current ABRA Rulebook or be leased in accordance with the current ABRA Rulebook.
- **ABRA AMATEUR** – Exhibitor must be a current member of ABRA and have a valid ABRA Amateur card. Any horse exhibited by an Amateur in ABRA Amateur classes must be registered with ABRA and must be owned by the exhibitor or by an accepted relative according to the current ABRA Rulebook or be leased in accordance with the current ABRA Rulebook.
- **ABRA** – Exhibitor & Owner must be current members of ABRA. Horse must be registered with ABRA.
Junior Horse is defined as being 5 years of age or younger.
Senior Horse is defined as being 6 years of age or older.
- **AQHA YOUTH** - Exhibitor must be a current member of AQHA, 18 years of age or younger and unmarried, and have a valid AQHA Youth membership card. Any horse exhibited by a Youth in AQHA Youth classes must be registered with AQHA and must be owned by the youth or by an accepted relative according to the current AQHA Rulebook or be leased in accordance with the current AQHA Rulebook.
- **AQHA AMATEUR** – Exhibitor must be a current member of AQHA and have a valid AQHA Amateur card. Any horse exhibited by an Amateur in AQHA Amateur classes must be registered with AQHA and must be owned by the exhibitor or by an accepted relative according to the current AQHA Rulebook or be leased in accordance with the current AQHA Rulebook.
- **AQHA** – Exhibitor must be current members of AQHA. Horse must be registered with AQHA.
Junior Horse is defined as being 5 years of age or younger.
Senior Horse is defined as being 6 years of age or older.
- **AjPHA** – Exhibitor must be current member of APHA, 5 to 18 years of age and unmarried, and have a valid APHA Junior membership card; with the exception of Leadline.
- **APHA AMATEUR** – Exhibitor must be a current member of APHA and have a valid APHA Amateur card. Any horse owned by an Amateur in APHA Amateur classes must be registered with APHA and must be owned by the exhibitor or by an accepted relative according to the current APHA Rulebook or be leased in accordance with the current APHA Rulebook.
- **APHA** – exhibitor and owner must be current members of APHA. Horse must be registered with APHA.
 - **Junior horse** please refer to current APHA Rulebook, ages change for Halter and Performance classes.
 - **Senior horse** please refer to current APHA Rulebook, ages change for Halter and Performance classes.

Section 3. Owner and Exhibitor Eligibility: In order for any horse, pony, and/or mule to be eligible to compete in any ABRA class, both the owner and exhibitor of said horse, pony, and/or mule must have current ABRA membership cards. All ABRA Membership Cards (Open, Amateur, and/or Youth) must be presented to the show office. In accordance with ABRA Rules, no one under the age of 18 is allowed to show and/or handle a stallion or jack. In order

for any horse to be eligible to compete in any AQHA class, the exhibitor of said horse must have a current AQHA membership card. All AQHA Membership Cards (Open, Amateur, and/or Youth) must be presented to the show office. In accordance with AQHA Rules, no one under the age of 18 is allowed to show and/or handle a stallion. In order for any horse to be eligible to compete in any APHA class, the exhibitor of said horse must have a current APHA membership card. All APHA membership Cards (Open, Amateur, and/or Youth) must be presented to the show office. In accordance with APHA Rules, no one under the age of 16 is allowed to show and/or handle a stallion.

All persons must settle any previous bills owed to HABHA from non-payment, bounced checks, etc., before they can compete at the next show, and/or receive any points that count toward HABHA Weekend or Year-End Awards.

Section 4. Attire: All exhibitors must wear proper attire (i.e., helmets, hats, boots, etc.) in all classes in accordance with ABRA/AQHA/APHA Rules.

Exhibitors and judges should always bear in mind that exhibitors are being judged on ability rather than on attire.

Section 5. HABHA Weekend Hi-Point Awards: HABHA Membership required. Points will be tallied during the course of a weekend (Saturday & Sunday shows combined). High Point Awards will be presented to the exhibitors and horses which earn the most points during the course of the weekend. Weekend Hi-Point Award categories will be determined by the show committee or Board of Directors prior to the beginning of the show season and will be posted at the show office and website.

Section 8: YEAR END AWARDS - To be awarded at the Awards Banquet and Meeting to be determined by the Officers and Board of Directors.

GENERAL AWARD REQUIREMENTS

- * Owner and Exhibitor MUST BE members in good standing of HABHA.
- * A permanent number will be issued to each horse for use at all HABHA shows during the year.
- * HABHA Points do not accumulate until membership dues are paid.
- * Points are based on one horse/one rider, points earned on multiple horses will not be combined.
- * Must show in at least 50% of HABHA shows held in the current show season. Each day is one (1) show.

INDIVIDUAL CLASS AWARDS - Must show in the class at no less than 50% of the shows held. Double-judged shows count as one show. Each day counts as one show.

ALL AROUND ALL-BREED YOUTH (18 & Under)

To be awarded to the exhibitor, 18 years of age or younger, who accumulates the most HABHA points throughout the season in All-Breed Youth classes and meets all other requirements as stated in the "Rules".

ALL AROUND ALL-BREED ADULT (19 & Over)

To be awarded to the exhibitor, 19 years of age or older, who accumulates the most HABHA points throughout the season in All-Breed Adult classes and meets all other requirements as stated in the "Rules".

ALL AROUND ABRA YOUTH (18 & Under)

To be awarded to the ABRA exhibitor, 18 years of age or younger, who accumulates the most HABHA points throughout the season in ABRA Youth classes and meets all other requirements as stated in the "Rules".

ALL AROUND ABRA AMATEUR

To be awarded to the ABRA exhibitor who accumulates the most HABHA points throughout the season in ABRA Amateur classes and meets all other requirements as stated in the "Rules".

ALL AROUND ABRA OPEN

To be awarded to the ABRA exhibitor who accumulates the most HABHA points throughout the season in ABRA Open classes and meets all other requirements as stated in the "Rules".

ALL AROUND AQHA YOUTH (18 & Under)

To be awarded to the AQHA exhibitor, 18 years of age or younger, who accumulates the most HABHA points throughout the season in AQHA Youth classes and meets all other requirements as stated in the "Rules".

ALL AROUND AQHA AMATEUR

To be awarded to the AQHA exhibitor who accumulates the most HABHA points throughout the season in AQHA Amateur classes and meets all other requirements as stated in the "Rules".

ALL AROUND AQHA OPEN

To be awarded to the AQHA exhibitor who accumulates the most HABHA points throughout the season in AQHA Open classes and meets all other requirements as stated in the "Rules".

ALL AROUND AjPHA (18 and under)

To be awarded to the APHA Junior exhibitor who accumulates the most HABHA points throughout the season in APHA Junior classes and meets all other requirements as stated in the "Rules".

ALL AROUND APHA AMATEUR

To be awarded to the APHA exhibitor who accumulates the most HABHA points throughout the season in APHA Amateur classes and meets all other requirements as stated in the "Rules".

ALL AROUND APHA OPEN

To be awarded to the APHA exhibitor who accumulates the most HABHA points throughout the season in APHA Open classes and meets all other requirements as stated in the "Rules".

DISPUTES

- * The Officers and Board of Directors, following notification in writing of the matter in question, will settle any disputes regarding points. The decision of the Officers and Board of Directors concerning such matter shall be final.
- * The Officers and Board of Directors, prior to award announcements being posted, will do an audit of the horse/exhibitor standings at the end of the show season on all points accumulated. If any discrepancies are found exhibitors will be notified in writing.

ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Authority: The Board of Directors and Officers shall have the power to make, amend and repeal the bylaws of the organization by two thirds (2/3) vote of the board members and officers present at any regular or special meeting, provided said amendment has been presented in writing to each member in good standing by first class mail or e-mail at least fifteen (15) days prior to said meeting, and subject to the members right to amend or rescind any such bylaws as outlined in Article II Section 1.

ARTICLE VIII CHARTER MEETING, MEMBERSHIPS & ELECTIONS

Section 1. Charter Meeting: The Charter Meeting of HABHA was held on Saturday November 15, 2003 at 2:00 PM at Royal Oaks Arena east of Carthage MO.

Section 2. Charter Memberships: Charter Memberships are available at reduced fees through June 30, 2004 at which time the rates listed in Article II Section 2 will become effective. Charter Memberships will be in effect from the date of application through December 31, 2004.

Section 3. Charter Elections: At the Charter Meeting those members present shall elect a President Secretary/Treasurer, and two (2) Board Members for two-year terms expiring December 31, 2005. They shall elect a Vice-President, and three (3) Board Members for one-year terms which will expire December 31, 2004.

For Charter purposes and election of Officers and Board Members the "twelve (12) consecutive months" requirement will be waived. Membership dues must be paid at or before the Charter Meeting in order to vote and/or to be considered for elective office. Nominations will be accepted at the Charter Meeting and elections will proceed by a show of hands of those Charter members present.