

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION

Voted and approved on 1-19-08 Annual Youth Meeting

ARTICLE I: Name and Purpose

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the North Carolina Quarter Horse Youth Association. (NCQHYA)

Section 2: The purpose of this association shall be:

- a) Develop and improve leadership, initiative, self-reliance, scholarship, sportsmanship, community interest and participation among young horsemen.
- b) To promote the welfare, respect, and pride of ownership of the American Quarter Horse among youth.
- c) To promote knowledge, welfare and versatility of the American Quarter Horse.
- d) To encourage high moral character, healthy competition and safety among its members.
- e) To acquaint NCQHYA members with their State affiliate, NCQHA and their National affiliate, AQHA and their structure, function and relationship with each other.

ARTICLE II: Youth Membership and Guidance

1. Membership shall consist of youth 18 years old and under.
2. Membership renews annually on Jan. 1st each year upon payment of dues. (Membership and points will count from date annual dues are paid.)
3. Members are expected to abide by the constitution and by-laws regardless of whether they choose to read them. Members will be provided with a copy of the constitution and by-laws, upon request.
4. NCQHYA youth membership shall be under the guidance of the North Carolina Quarter Horse Youth Activities Committee (YAC).

ARTICLE III: Youth Activities Committee Membership (YAC) & Guidance

1. Members of the YAC shall consist of the NCQHA Youth Advisor, the Youth Director Emeritus and the Committee Chairs.
2. In the event of a vacancy on the YAC committee any member may recommend a person(s) to serve as a new committee member. The recommended person(s) shall be approved by the existing YAC committee with a majority vote. Once approved, the person(s) will be contacted and upon acceptance will be added to the committee and reported to the North Carolina Quarter Horse Executive Vice President.
3. Membership of the YAC shall be governed by the Constitution and bylaws of NCQHYA, the existing North Carolina Quarter Horse Youth Activities Committee Description and Role Guidelines, is under the direction of NCQHA and reports to the NCQHA Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV: Officers and Responsibilities

Executive Offices shall be those as designated by the Youth Activities Committee and Youth Advisor for each upcoming year. Executive officers will include: President, Executive Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and any other office deemed necessary to fulfill the needs of the association for the upcoming year. In order for the Youth to send in their Intent to Serve and Candidate Requirement forms, the decision as to which executive office positions will be available, shall be made by August 31st of each year. Executive Officers shall be fourteen (14) years of age or older. There will be up to and not exceed twelve (12) Directors.

The officers, directors, youth advisor, and youth activities committee will be collectively known as the Youth Executive Committee. Any officer or director must be a current member of NCQHYA and participate in activities and programs of NCQHYA. An officer with three (3) absences from any regular scheduled meeting or event is subject to removal from said office. The decision will rest solely with the YAC and the Executive Officers.

ARTICLE V: Elections

Elections of Youth Officers & Directors will be held at annual year end meeting.

- Youth must be current member of AQHYA.
- Youth wanting to serve as an officer or director must submit to the Youth Advisor or Youth Communication Chair (from Youth Activities Committee) in writing an Intent to Serve and Candidate Requirement form signed by the youth and their parent prior to established deadline.
- Youth running must meet Candidate requirements, and must have their NCQHYA membership for the year they wish to serve paid prior to elections.

ARTICLE VI: Meetings

There shall be a minimum of four meetings a year, or as deemed necessary by the Youth Executive Committee and Youth Advisor. The annual year-end meeting shall be for the election of officers.

ARTICLE VII: Awards

In order for an annual award to be given, there must be a minimum of three classes in each division per year. A year-end award may be offered for an event without relationship to a horse, as in an educational achievement award, or membership drive award, or other award), as determined and defined by the Youth Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII: Liability

The North Carolina Quarter Horse Youth Association and/or The North Carolina Quarter Horse Association, being a non-profitable organization, shall not be responsible for loss due to accident, theft or otherwise sustained by any member, visit or guest.

ARTICLE IX: Approval and Amendments

This constitution and by-laws, when approved by the Advisor and the Youth Activities Committee of the North Carolina Quarter Horse Youth Association and the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Quarter Horse Association, shall stand until the annual year end meeting and may be amended hereafter with a 51% approval of the members present, at any succeeding annual year end meeting.