

Maine Morgan Horse Club, Inc.

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

(Revised January 2007) - (effective 5-12-07)

Article I

Name

The name of this association shall be the Maine Morgan Club, Inc.

Article II

Purpose

The purpose of the association shall be:

- A. to encourage, educate and promote the breeding and use of registered Morgans.
- B. to cooperate with the American Morgan Horse Association and any other affiliated organization in working for the advancement of the breed, and
- C. to promote good fellowship and sportsmanship among Morgan horse owners and friends.
- D. to recognize the versatility of the Morgan horse by supporting our members in promotion of this versatility.

Article III

Fiscal Operation

The Fiscal year and operation of the club shall follow the calendar year, January 1 - December 31.

Article IV

Conduct of the Club

Meetings

General membership meetings are to be held not less than two times a year. The location shall be decided by the sitting Board of Directors. The general spring membership meeting will occur before June 1, the annual fall membership meeting will occur before December 31 of each year. An awards banquet will be held prior to March 1st.

Membership

Section 1: Membership in the association shall be open to any person owning a Morgan horse or any person having an interest in the Morgan horse breed, upon submission of an application and the payment of the annual dues regardless of place of residence. The application shall be furnished by the association.

Section 2: Voting privileges shall be extended only to members whose dues are paid and who have reached their 14th birthday.

Section 3: Annual dues shall be set by the board of Directors and will be reviewed at each fall meeting. They shall consist of individual membership, family membership, a junior membership, Life membership, and the "specialty" memberships: Bulrush, Woodbury, Sherman. Dues are payable by January 1 of each year.

individual membership- any member 18 or older as of January 1

Family membership - 1 or more members living in one household, with no more than 2 adults over 18

Junior membership- an individual under age 18 as of Jan. 1

Life Membership - membership of any individual over 18 that will exist on record with MMHC, Inc. for their natural life.

Specialty memberships- one of three memberships(Bulrush, Sherman, Woodbury), giving members normal membership rights plus extended publicity in all printed material put out by the MMHC. Name of specialty members will be listed in all newsletters, directory, and MMHS program.

Section 4: Payment of dues entitles each individual membership to one vote. Two votes are allowed for each family membership. Any voting member must have reached their 14th birthday at the time of vote.

Section 5: Termination of membership- The officers and director by an affirmative majority may suspend or expel a member for just cause after offering an opportunity for an appropriate hearing before the officers and directors.

Finances

Section 1: Any funds exceeding \$1000, must have the approval of one other board member before a check may be expended from club funds.

Section 2: An audit of all financial records and books for all club and show accounts shall be made by an independent accountant or audit committee and present to the Board of directors for approval before the annual fall meeting each year.

Article V

Board of Directors and Officers

Section 1: The officers of this association shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Executive positions may be shared when the Board of directors deems it expedient to ensure continuity in club affairs. On and after January 1, 2008 the President and Vice President terms will alternate with the treasurer and secretary terms. President and Vice Presidents to be elected on the even numbered years and the treasurer and secretary elected on the odd numbered years. On or after January 1, 2008 all officers shall serve a two year term of office.

Section 2: On and after January 1, 2008 the board of Directors shall consist of the retiring president for 2 years, officers of the association, and 6 directors. In addition there shall be a nonvoting alternate, elected annually who will vote in the absence of a voting director. On and after January 1, 2008, each director shall serve a 3 year term of office. Two director's term shall expire December 31 of each year. Any director having three unexcused absences from board meetings will be replaced by the nonvoting alternate

Section 3: The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers plus Past President. Meetings of this committee shall be called by the President at any time.

Duties of the Executive Committee

Section 4: The Executive Committee shall lend guidance in the implementation and disposition of programs approved by the board of Directors or membership. This committee may handle emergency business considered too urgent to have a Board of Director's Meeting. They may make recommendations to the Board of Directors. A quorum shall consist of three executive committee members. Any actions of the Executive Committee must be reported to the Board of Directors at their next meeting.

Duties of the Officers

Section 5: The President shall preside at all meetings, appoint chairperson of all standing committees, call all meetings and attend the New England Morgan Horse Club meetings.

Section 6: The vice president shall perform all duties of the president in his/her absence and assist with the committee work.

Section 7: The secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the corporation and read the same at each meeting, handle all correspondence, keep a complete list of members, and send all notices as applicable.

Section 8: The treasurer shall collect the dues, keep all financial accounts of the corporation, and present a financial report at each meeting.

Section 9: Assistant Treasurer - as the president requires, may appoint assistant treasurers who will report to the treasurer. They shall have responsibility for specific funds assigned to them and will not have access to any other accounts of the corporation. The Vice President shall be listed as a signer on all financial accounts of the club along with the Treasurer.

Duties of the Board of Directors

Section 10: Any director vacancy which occurs during the year shall be filled by the nonvoting alternate. Any vacancy of an officer shall be filled by the decision of the Board.

Section 11 : The board shall transact all routine business and such emergency business as may need action between meetings of the corporation.

Section 12: The board shall study other questions of interest to the club and present a motion to the membership for a vote.

Section 13: 50% + 1 member of the Board of Directors needs to be present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 14. It will be the duty of the board of directors to set policy . Changes to any policy guidelines regarding committees, points system, activities, and/or financial obligations will be the sole responsibility of the board. The membership will be notified of any changes at membership meetings.

Elections

Section 14: Election of officers and directors to fill expiring terms shall be held at the annual (fall) meeting. Those candidates receiving the most votes cast for each office for directorship shall be elected. Ballots shall be issued to the voting membership not less than thirty days prior to the annual (fall) meeting. A ballot may be returned to the secretary in advance of the meeting or delivered by hand at the fall meeting. The candidates running for open director positions will be voted on by the membership. The director candidate receiving the third most votes shall be elected as the alternate director. Any elected official must hold a current membership

Section 15: Names of candidates to be nominated for the fall elections must be received by the Secretary prior to the Spring General membership meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the Spring General meeting. Eligibility and availability must be ascertained before the names shall be placed on the ballot.

Article VI

Termination of the Club

In the event of the dissolution of this corporation, its assets are irrevocably dedicated to an exempt purpose, as defined by the Internal Revenue Code. The Maine Morgan Board of Directors will meet to decide to what purpose those assets will be placed.

Article VII

Amending Bylaws and Constitution

Any Maine Morgan member in good standing may request amendment of the constitution and bylaws upon written request to the Board of Directors. If a majority of the Board of Directors deem the request to be of value, a vote shall be put to the General Membership. Ballots shall be issued to the membership not less than 30 (thirty) days prior to a general meeting and shall be returned, opened, and counted at said meeting. Ballots may also be returned to the Secretary in advance of this meeting. A majority of the total votes cast must vote in the affirmative in order for the change to pass; the amendment shall then become part of the current bylaws and constitution.

Article VIII

Official Guide

The current issue of The Sturgis Standard Parliamentary Code shall be the official guide for any meeting of the club.

Article IX

Committees

Section 1: Committees shall be formed as deemed required by the board.

Section 2: All committee chairs will be appointed by the board of directors on an annual basis and are expected to attend the biannual meetings to report the business of the committee to the membership. They will also be expected to submit a report to each of the Board of Director meetings to keep the board apprised of their work.