

Houston Area Carriage Association By- Laws

Proposed Amendments

Article I - The name of the organization shall be The Houston Area Carriage Association (“HACA”).

Article II - Purpose

The purposes for which HACA was organized are:

- a. to promote the sport of driving of equines to carriages both competitively and for pleasure.
- b. to educate and inform both its members and the public with respect to driving methods, safety and events; and
- c. to organize driving events and to facilitate and encourage the organization of driving events.

Article III– General Committee

Section 1. The duties of the Committee are to oversee the functions of HACA in accordance with the Bylaws. The Committee may make decisions and conduct business in addition to matters addressed by the membership.

Section 2. The Committee shall consist of **Seven members**, four of whom shall be called the Executive Committee listed in Article IV, Section 1.

Section 3. The Committee must be members in good standing when elected and remain members in good standing during their service.

Section 4. There is no limit on the number of terms a person may serve on the Committee. A Committee member may be removed from the Committee for cause, such as non-participation, or non-payment of dues. Committee

members shall fill any vacancy on the Executive Committee by a two-thirds vote of the committee for the remainder of the term of the office.

Article IV - Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall be made up of the Executive Committee Chairman, Executive Committee Vice - Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Separate individuals must fill these positions.

Section 2. The term of office for Executive Committee members shall be for a minimum of one year.

Section 3. The duties of the Executive Committee Chairman are to prepare the agenda and preside at all meetings, accept volunteers to be Sub - Committee Chairmans and oversee the general operations of HACA.

Section 4. The duties of the Executive Vice Chairman are to assist the Executive Chairman and perform presidential duties in the absence of the Executive Chairman.

Section 5. The duties of the Secretary are to record the minutes of HACA's meeting and to preserve its records.

Section 6. The duties of the Treasurer are to keep the records of HACA's finances. The Treasurer shall provide a written record of all transactions and the financial condition of the club whenever the Committee requires it and at each regular meeting. The Treasurer and Executive Committee Chairman shall be account administrators. The fiscal year shall be from January 1 to December 31.

Section 7. A vacancy of any Executive Committee Member must be filled by one of the seven Committee members.

Article V - Sub - Committee

Section 1. The Committee may appoint sub -committees as it deems appropriate or necessary from time to time.

Section 2. Sub Committee members do not need to be a member of the General Committee and could fill the roles of Membership Chairman and Online Chairman.

Section 3. Membership Chairman - responsible for collecting applications, dues and maintaining a list of Club Members.

Section 4. Online Chairman - responsible for maintaining the Club's online accounts (ex. Website, Facebook Group and Page) and keeping the information up to date.

Article VI - Meetings

Section 1. A minimum of four membership meetings must be held each year. The Annual Membership Meeting is held in January. Decisions may be made by a majority vote of members present at a meeting.

Section 2. The Executive Committee Chairman shall give notice to the members of meetings not less than 15 days prior to the meeting date.

Article VII - Events

Section 1. The General Committee by majority vote can approve events whose anticipated expenses are less than \$500.

Section 2. Events with expenses over \$500 need to be approved by the General Membership and be accompanied by a budget that itemizes anticipated expenses and income.

Article VIII - Elections

Section 1. A nominating sub - committee shall be appointed by the Committee to present a list of possible committee members to the membership at the annual meeting in January. These possible committee members will be voted on by the membership, if necessary, to keep our committee at 7.

Section 2. The election of Committee Members shall be by a simple majority of those members present at the meeting.

Article IX- Membership

Section 1. Membership in HACCA is open to anyone interested in equine driving. Membership is effective upon completion of an application and payment of dues.

Section 2. Membership includes all members of a household.

Section 3. The membership year of the Club is based on the calendar year of January - December and are due by December 31st.

Section 4.

Individual membership - one adult 18 or older. Entitled to one vote at all club meetings. Covered as a "member" when participating in club activities.

Family membership - a family membership consists of parents and their children under the age of 18 in one household. A family membership is entitled to one vote per adult (2) total at all meetings. The family is covered as "Members" when participating in club activities.

Junior membership - an individual under the age of 18. Junior members are not entitled to vote. The junior member is covered as a "Member" when participating in club activities.

Section 5.

Membership Fees effective January 1, 2022.

Individual membership - \$30

Family Membership - \$40

Junior Membership - \$10

Section 6. A Change of Membership Fees should be voted on by the general membership.

Section 7. In addition, the Club may grant an Honorary membership to a person who has provided service to the club. Honorary members may not hold office or vote.

Article X - Club Dissolution

If the club dissolves, after paying all outstanding debts, liabilities and obligations, all remaining assets will be distributed to a charitable, carriage driving related organization (such as CAA, ADS, USDFD, etc.)

Article XI - Changes to Bylaws

Any of these bylaws may be amended, repealed or changed by a majority vote of the membership at our Annual Meeting.

