

Welsh Pony & Cob Association of Ontario Constitution

1. NAME

The name of this organization is “WELSH PONY & COB ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO”.

2. OBJECTS

To promote the breed and use the breed, while striving to maintain its purity and trueness to type and to further its welfare in every way.

3. MEMBERSHIP

a. The members of the Association shall be such individuals and organizations as the Board of Directors may determine.

b There shall be three classes of membership:

i. Individual Membership – applicable to those member eighteen (18) years of age and over as of the first of January of the current year, who pay the prescribed annual membership fee due the first of January each year.

ii. Family Membership – applicable to all immediate members of a family who pay the prescribed annual membership fee due the first of January each year. A child attaining the age of eighteen (18) years of age as of the first of January for the current year is no longer included in a Family Membership.

iii. Junior Membership – applicable to those members under eighteen (18) years of age as of the first of January of the current year who pay the prescribed annual membership fee due the first of January each year.

iv) Life Member: Any member of this club who has maintained Active membership for 20 or more years and has rendered outstanding service to this Association and the Welsh Community; or any member who is critically ill; or any member of this club who has maintained such active membership for 15 or more years and is at least 70 years of age may be granted Life Membership in this Association upon:

- (1) recommendation to the association and approval at an AGM or
- (2) payment to the association of a set fee , as determined by the board, in lieu of membership, or its equivalent in respective national currency in lieu of all future dues to the association and
- (3) approval by the Board of Directors.

A Life Member shall have all privileges of active membership so long as he/she fulfils all obligations thereof.

c. Application for membership shall be in writing on the membership application form supplied by the Association. This is an annual membership application. This form must be duly completed and signed with all associated fees submitted and paid, in the hands of the board of directors, prior to the membership becoming effective. If a member fails to pay dues, active membership shall automatically terminate. A member may be reinstated by payment of required dues.

d. All renewing individual and family memberships processed between January 1 and May 31st of the current year shall be subject to current membership rates. Those memberships processed after June 1st shall be subject to a \$10 fee. Memberships processed after November 1st will not have voting rights at the current year's annual general meeting. This excludes first time members and juniors.

e. Any member who fails to pay any indebtedness (with the exception of memberships fees as per section c) due this association within sixty (60) days after receipt of written notice from the association shall forfeit his/her good standing and shall so remain until such indebtedness is paid in full. Only members in good standing may exercise the voting privilege and hold office in this association.

f. Any member may resign from this association, or from a position within the association, such as that of Director. Said resignation shall become effective upon acceptance by the board of directors. The board may withhold acceptance, however, until all indebtedness has been paid and/or all association funds and property have been returned. All rights to the use of the Association's affiliation and insignia cease when membership is terminated.

4. DUES

The dues schedule shall be determined and amended by the Board of Directors.

5. FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Association shall correspond with the calendar year.

6. OFFICERS

a. Directors: The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Board of 10 Directors who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting by secret ballot, by fully paid up members in good standing. A further election at the Annual General Meeting will be held to determine President and Vice President from the 10 elected Board of Director members by secret ballot, by fully paid up members in good standing.

In order that there may be a continuity of experienced Directors at all times, 5 shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting for a 2- year term of office. A candidate for the position of the board of director must have held membership, in good standing, in this association for a term of not less than 2 years prior to nomination, to ensure that they have a basic understanding of the Welsh Breed and of the Association's operations. Each Director must

be a fully paid up member in good standing.

The Board shall have the power to fill any vacancies which may occur among their number, providing however, that any Director so appointed shall hold office only until the end of the term, but shall then be eligible for re-election.

b. Special Committees: The Board of Directors may appoint from their number or from other members of the Association, Special Committees. The action of any Special Committee is subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

c. President: He/She shall be a member of all committees and supervise the activities of the Association generally.

d. Vice-President: The Vice-President will perform all duties of the President should he/she not be able to attend meetings on account of illness or other causes.

e. Secretary: The Board of Directors will appoint a Secretary as and when such an appointment is necessary. The duties of the Secretary will be to keep Minutes of Meetings and deal with all mail etc., under the direction of the Board of Directors.

f. Treasurer: The Board of Directors will appoint a Treasurer as and when such appointment is necessary. The Treasurer shall have custody of all the funds of the Association in such bank or other depository as the Board of Directors may from time to time designate and shall collect dues and make disbursements as necessary with cheques counter-signed by the President or the Secretary. He/She shall keep proper books of accounting and provide financial statements as called for by the Board of Directors.

g. The Board of Directors shall have the power to appoint from its number an Executive Committee. This Executive Committee will be called on only time sensitive situations, concerning the association and its ongoing business and will be required to report back to the rest of the directors at the next meeting

h. The Board of Directors may appoint Associate Directors to help the Board in its deliberation and execution thereof. Such Associate Directors will not have a vote on the Board.

7. MEETINGS

a. The Annual General Meeting or other General Meeting shall be held at such time and place as decided by the Directors of the Association. A notice of at least 21 days in advance shall be given by post, indicating the time and place of the meeting.

b.

i. A meeting of the Directors can be held without written notice, providing all directors have given their consent and a Minute of such consent is entered in the Minutes.

ii. The Board of Directors shall meet not less than four times per year.

c. For the transaction of business of the Association at an Annual or General Meeting, a quorum shall be 10; at a meeting of the Directors a quorum shall be 5.

d. At the written request of 20 members, the Secretary can call a Special General Meeting of the Association, but such meeting shall have no power to amend the Constitution.

e. Voting Rights:

i. Individual membership – one (1) Vote

ii. Family Membership – one (1) vote to each adult member, maximum of two (2) Votes.

iii. Junior Membership – no Vote

f. Bourinot's Rules of Order will be adopted as a guide for conducting all meetings and ongoing business of the Board of Directors and the Welsh Pony and Cob Association Of Ontario.

8. AMENDMENTS

The Constitution may be amended at the Annual General Meeting by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members voting. Proxy votes will be allowed for constitution amendments only. Notice of proposed amendments shall be in the hands of the Secretary thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting. The Secretary will then notify the members not less than 21 days in advance of the said meeting.

9. Association Funds

a. All funds raised from any association activity on behalf of the membership must be returned to the membership, including monies accumulated from any funds invested. The only deductions that may be made from these funds are the direct operating expenses of the fundraising activity. Monies raised from interest must also be returned to the membership through education, scholarships or awards. A full reporting of any funds should be made by the committee involved and the association's treasurer.

b. Administrative funds are supported through contributions from members through dues, fines and other individual contributions. The annual on-going "operating" expenses of the Association should never exceed these Administrative funds.

c. The Board of Directors will annually prepare an Operating Budget to be presented to the membership at their Annual General meeting. They will also provide a Budget to Actual Expenditure summary for membership review.