

REGION XI YOUTH ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I NAME AND PURPOSE

Section: 1.

The organization will be a division of Region XI and the Arabian Horse Association and shall conduct business within the scope of the By-laws, Rules and Regulations of Region XI, the Arabian Horse Association (AHA) and the Arabian Horse Youth Association (AHYA) and shall be called the Region XI Youth Association.

Section: 2.

The objectives and purposes of the Region XI Youth Association shall be as follows:

- a. To acquaint youth association members with the organization, activities, and functions of Region XI, AHA and AHYA.
- b. To promote the Arabian horse.
- c. To provide an area for youth to develop their knowledge and capabilities in working with each other and Arabian Horses.
- d. To encourage scholarship, leadership and community interest as young citizens.
- e. To enable Youth Members to work in conjunction with the Youth Advisory Board.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

A youth member is an individual under the age of eighteen as of December 1 of the previous calendar year. Any youth member of a Region XI club in good standing is a member of the Region XI Youth Association.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS, AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1

The business and property of the organization shall be managed and controlled by the Region XI Youth Association and the Youth Advisory Board.

- a. **Budget:** The Region XI Youth Executive Committee and Youth Advisory Board shall prepare an annual budget for their activities. This budget will be submitted to the Region XI Board of Delegates at their winter meeting for approval. Region XI shall budget funds annually for Youth Activities, Youth Director expense, and Youth Advisor expense. Expenses in addition to these may be included in the Youth Association budget but will be their responsibility to cover through fundraising or use of Youth Designated Funds.

Section 2: Officers

The officers of the organization shall be the Director, Vice Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past Director. Such officers shall hold that office for a period of two (2) years and until their successors are elected and qualified. No director may serve more than two (2) two year terms as Director, unless to fill the unexpired term of the preceding Director.

a. **Director:** The Director shall preside at all meetings of the Region XI Youth Association. The Director shall appoint all committees subject to the approval of the Youth Advisory Board. The Director shall be knowledgeable of what is happening within AHYA, the activities of Region XI Youth Association and report them to the membership. The Director shall attend all meetings of the AHYA in Aurora CO or other locations, and at the Annual Convention of the AHYA held at the Youth National Horse Show.

b. **Vice Director:** The Vice Director shall, in the absence of the Director, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Director and shall perform the duties as the Director may prescribe.

c. **Secretary:** The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Region XI Youth and shall record or cause to be recorded all votes taken. The Secretary shall record the minutes of all proceedings in a minute book of the association to be kept for that purpose.

d. **Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall keep or cause to be kept a full and accurate account of all receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the association.

e. **Immediate past Director:** The Immediate Past Director shall serve as an advisor to the Director.

Section 3: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The executive committee of Region XI Youth Association shall consist of the Director, Vice Director, Secretary, Treasurer and Immediate Past Director.

Section 4:

a. Election Procedures

The Director and Vice Director shall be appointed by the YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD, and the offices of Secretary and Treasurer will be elected by the youth in attendance at the annual meeting. The person receiving the most votes will be declared the winner. In case of a tie a run off election between the tied candidates is held to break the tie.

1. All candidates must be present at the annual meeting at the time of voting.
2. New officers will be selected in odd-numbered years.

b. Qualifications.

Candidates for office must be at least 14 years of age as of December 1st of the previous year and within the upper age limit defined in the AHA Handbook Chapter 25, Article III, Section 3 (AHYA Constitution). The candidates for office must be a current Youth Member of the AHYA and have a minimum of 1 full year previous membership at time of election. Each officer shall at all time during his continuance in office, be a qualified member of the AHYA or AHA.

c. Application.

Candidates for Director and Vice-Director should nominate themselves and submit the application to a **voting** member of the Youth Advisory Board no later than **15 days before the annual meeting**. The nomination should include a resume that lists the candidate's involvement in Regional and AHYA activities, as well as horse activities in general, school involvement and any other factors which may show their suitability for office. The nomination should also include a statement from their parent/guardian agreeing to support the AHYA member's wish to seek that office.

Section 5 Election

1. Once nominations are received, interviews will be scheduled by the selection committee. In-person interviews are preferred, but telephone interviews may be used if in-person is not possible.
2. Selection criteria will include, but may not be limited to:

Suitability of the candidate for the office, including the ability to perform the duties required and the willingness to commit the time and effort needed.

- a. Suitability of the candidate for the office, including the ability to perform the duties required and the willingness to commit the time and effort needed.
- b. Age eligibility (will the candidate stay within the age limits set by AHA for the length of the term)
- c. Candidate's previous activity within Region XI Youth Association
- d. Candidate's previous activity within AHA, AHYA or other horse-oriented activities such as 4-H, FFA, local horse clubs or others.
- e. Candidate's participation in activities such as school, civic, church or others.
- f. Parental support of the candidate's efforts in holding the office.

3. Once all applicants have been interviewed, the voting members of the Youth Advisory Board will decide on the successful candidate for the Director and Vice-Director posts. The Regional Director (or their designee) will act as spokesman to notify all candidates of the results.

e. Vacancy

In the case of a vacancy the vacant office will be filled by the Youth Advisory Board.

ARTICLE IV **YOUTH MEETINGS**

The Region XI Youth Association will have a minimum of one meeting; it can be the annual meeting. The annual meeting is held in conjunction with the Region XI championship show, but may be held at a different time and place.

ARTICLE V **YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD**

The Youth Advisory Board shall consist of the Regional XI Director, Vice Director, Secretary, Treasure and Youth Adviser. One parent/guardian each of the Region XI Youth Director and Vice-Director may be non-voting members of the Youth Advisory Board.

ARTICLE VI **AMENDMENTS**

The By-Laws of this organization may be amended by a two thirds vote of the youth in attendance at the annul meeting along with the approval of the Advisory Board.