

**2024 IDAHO HORSE COUNCIL
BYLAWS
ARTICLE I - ORGANIZATION**

Section 1. This organization, known as the Idaho Horse Council, Inc., herein to be referred to in this document as the Council, and is incorporated as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Idaho, Title 30. Idaho Nonprofit Corporation Act.

Section 2. This Council shall/may be a state council member of the American Horse Council, Inc.

Section 3. The principle place of business of the Council shall be in the city of Boise; county of Ada, or location as approved by the Board of Directors but if an executive director has been appointed may be executed in the office of the duly appointed executive director of the Council upon the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. There shall be no capital stock issued to members or officers.

Section 5. Property. No property rights shall accrue to any member or person and in case of dissolution all property or assets, after payment of debts, shall accrue as provided in the charter, provided however, no incorporator or member shall be responsible for, or individually liable for, any debts or obligations of the Council. Upon dissolution, remaining assets shall be donated, transferred, delivered and conveyed by the directors to one or more organizations engaged in similar activities.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of the Idaho Horse Council shall be to promote the interests of the entire equine industry of Idaho; to act as liaison among various horse groups; to disseminate information, act as official voice of the state equine industry.

Section 2. Objectives of the Council shall be:

- A. To further the common interest of the Idaho horse industry.
- B. To serve as a means of communication within the industry and spokesman to those outside the industry where unity and strength are needed.
- C. To monitor legislative and administrative decisions which would have an impact on horses and/or the Idaho Horse industry.
- D. To promote horse related activities and/or programs of beneficial interest to the industry in Idaho.
- E. To promote the highest standards of sportsmanship and horsemanship for the use of horses as a source of healthful recreation and welfare of Idaho residents.
- F. To encourage the protection and development of natural and environmental resources vital to the horse industry in Idaho.
- G. To encourage and support programs developed by the Idaho Youth Horse Council in the use of horses for enhancing the development of human behavior.
- H. To promote and encourage programs or activities which enhance the marketing of horses.
- I. To develop programs which encourage the humane and appropriate treatment vital to horse's best welfare.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility: Any person, association, corporation, society, or other group who subscribes to and promotes the purposes and policies of this Council shall be eligible for membership in accordance with the provisions of these by-laws.

Section 2. Classes of Membership: The Council shall have classes of membership designated as follows:

Regular: Regular members shall be organizations or clubs operating in Idaho representing national associations, inter-state or state wide horsemen organizations, and local clubs provided that:

- A. The principal place of business of the organization is within the state of Idaho.
- B. The organization holds at least one meeting per year.
- C. The organization has a Board of Directors that meet regularly.
- D. The organization shall be responsible for selection of their voting delegate.
- E. Each member organization shall be entitled to one vote regardless of organization size.

Associate: Associate members shall consist of individuals, families, groups, professionals, commercial firms or businesses who wish to join the Idaho Horse Council in its efforts in supporting the Idaho equine industry or have interest in supporting the development of the equine industry in Idaho. Associate members may attend meetings, participate in committees, and receive benefits of the Idaho Horse Council and shall be entitled to all privileges of regular members except the right to vote or hold office.

Special: Special membership may be extended to individuals, organizations, or firms upon the discretion and specification of the Board of Directors.

1. The Idaho Youth Horse Council shall be considered the youth educational arm of the Idaho Horse Council in planning, coordination and development of horse youth programs in Idaho. As an affiliate of the Idaho Horse Council, the Youth Horse Council will be granted permanent membership without the obligation of annual membership fees with voting rights and one delegate.
2. Honorary members are elected by a unanimous vote of the directors present and shall be exempt from payment of any dues and shall be entitled to all privileges of regular members, except the right to vote or hold office.
3. Grandfathered directors are board members who belonged to a member organization when they were voted onto the board; the aforementioned organization has since allowed its membership to lapse, or the director is no longer associated with that member organization.
4. Director Emeritus is reserved for those retired or retiring directors who have had distinguished service and whose extraordinary contributions and commitment to the Idaho Horse Council set them apart from their peers. The term of Director Emeritus may extend into perpetuity.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall approve or reject all applications for Council membership based upon the group's aims and objectives being commensurate with the Council's as described in Article I and II of these By-Laws.

Section 4. Resignation: Any member may withdraw from the Council by giving written notice of such intention to the president or executive director without recourse to obtain refund of membership fees.

Section 5. Suspension: Any member may be suspended for a period or expelled for cause such as violation of any of the by-laws or rules of the Council, or for conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Council. Suspension or expulsion shall be by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors, provided that a statement of charges shall have been mailed by registered mail to the member under charges at the last recorded address at least fifteen (15) days before the final action is taken thereon; this statement shall be accompanied by a notice of the time, date, and the place where the Board of Directors is to take action. The member shall be given an opportunity to present a defense at the time and place mentioned in the notice.

Section 6. Dues: Annual dues are to be paid by within the calendar year before the annual convention and shall cover the period between January 1 and December 31 of the current year. Annual dues shall be payable with application for membership and a current list of officers with contact information and member count.

Section 7. Fees: The Board of Directors is empowered to make such changes and/or adjustments in the dues by membership category as are deemed necessary for the proper operation of the Council. Such changes will be in effect for a minimum of one year and notice shall be given at the annual meeting prior to a dues schedule change. Annual dues for organizations or groups may be determined on the basis of the previous year's list of individual paid members where appropriate for formulating the total annual dues structure of the organization or group.

Section 8. Arrears: Members who fail to pay their dues, subscriptions, or assessments by March 1st after notification may be dropped from the rolls, and thereupon forfeit all privileges, including voting rights. Membership shall become effective upon receipt of appropriate dues or postmark by the Council.

Section 9. Transfer of Membership: Membership in this Council is not transferable or assignable.