

JACKSON COUNTY HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
Updated January 2011

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Article I: Description

Section I: Title

The Jackson County Horseman's Association shall at all times be operated and conducted as a non-profit organization.

The Jackson County Horseman's Association shall have yearly dues. The association year being from January 1, until December 31st.

Section II: Purpose and Goal

To provide a safe and family friendly environment for the participation in competition and activities for further education and promotion of the bond between humans and horses.

To provide the opportunity for local horsemen to excel in competition at all levels displaying good sportsmanship and respect for fellow horsemen.

Section III: Disclaimer

Under Mississippi law, an equine or livestock activity sponsor or an equine or livestock professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities or livestock shows resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities or livestock shows, pursuant to this chapter.

Mississippi code Section 95-11-1 through 95-11-7

Laws 1994, Ch. 443, § 4, eff. July 1, 1994.

Amended by Laws 2003, Ch. 451, § 4, eff. July 1, 2003

Article II: Event Rules and Regulations

Section I: General and Event Rules

1. Pony event riders must be 13 and under. Ponies must be 52" or under for timed events and are subject to measurement. Riders may be asked to present a birth certificate. *(amended per motion February 2009 where Judged events were deleted)*
2. No entry will be accepted after the event has started, with the exception of clerical error.
3. Disqualifications:
 - a. Missed pattern; including any variations from the pattern, such as extra loops, or turning props in the wrong direction. The show chairman makes the final decision.
 - b. Hitting horse with the flag in the flag race.
 - c. Contestant breaking the clock.
4. A five (5) second penalty will be added if any prop is knocked down before the clock stops. No penalty will be added for props that fall after the rider has left the arena.
5. No re-rides for broken tack
6. Each rider will get a 3-minute gate call. If the rider cannot run when their name is called the 1st time, he/she will be bumped down. If the rider is unable to run the 2nd time their name is called, he/she will be bumped to last. If the rider is unable to run the 3rd time their name is called, he/she will be scratched from the event without a refund.
7. Arena tabs will be given at the discretion of the workers in the sign-up booth.
8. Negative coggins are required at all times and must be available upon request.
9. EZ Rider entries are open to any rider.
10. Stallions can only be ridden by adults, 18 years or older in any JCHA event, including practices.

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Section I: General and Event Rules *(continued)*

11. In the event of a clock break error rider will be given 2 re-rides if their original pattern was clean, 1 if not, or rider may request a refund if they choose not to re-ride.
12. No children under the age of 16 are allowed to work in the concession stand without a parent/guardian present.
13. No person under the age of 18 is allowed to write down times. *(amended by motion made February 2009 meeting)*
14. No drinking or drugs are allowed on JCHA property.
15. Proper riding attire is required. Boots with heels and long pants are required. Children under 18 are encouraged to wear helmets.
16. Timed event rules and classes are adapted from AQHA/ 4-H rules.
17. Team penning rules are adapted from AQHA Team Penning rules. *(amended per motion made January 2010)*
18. Roping rules are adapted from NRPCA rules.
19. Rules can not be changed in the middle of the year except for safety issues. *(amended by motion made January 2009)*
20. The member who brings tractor may ride without charge. *(amended by motion made October 2009)*
21. Arena rental shall be \$100 per day plus another \$100 if we can't open concessions. Rodeo events are \$300 per day and we do concessions. (Negotiable for rodeo events only) *(amended by motion made March 2009)*
22. If a member wants to rent the arena at the preset prices and wants to use the PA system and/or concession stand, a board member must be present for the entire event. *(amended by motion made October 2009)*
23. Abuse of animals is not allowed, and will not be tolerated.
24. Contestants must choose which division to run in for points at the first show for which they participate. That will be the only division they receive points in. Riders may ride for feed ONLY in additional divisions, but will receive no POINTS.

Section II: Payouts and Year-end Awards

1. Payouts
 - a. If there are less than 3 entries in any event, the rider or riders will be allowed to show their horses and receive their points, however, no payout will be awarded.
 - b. Or if a class/division has less than three (3) entries, then they can be combined and run with an equal class/division for payout. Ie: ladies with men or 12 & under with 13-17, EZ rider cannot combine with any other class. *(amended per motion made January 2009)*
- A. Payout schedule:
 - a. Feed payout, when applicable, will be given as payout according to the following schedule.

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Section II: Payouts and Year-end Awards *(continued)*

b. Cash payout, when applicable, will be paid according to the following schedule: *(amended by motion made February 2009)*

# of Entries	# of Places Paid	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
3	1	50# or \$5				
4 - 5	1	100# or \$10				
6 - 7	2	100# or \$10	50# or \$5			
8 - 9	3	100# or \$10	50# or \$5	50# or \$5		
10 - 11	4	100# or \$10	50# or \$5	50# or \$5	50# or \$5	
12+	5	100# or \$10	50# or \$5	50# or \$5	50# or \$5	50# or \$5

c. Li'l Britches are riders 8 years and under. Show payout for Li'l Britches will be ribbons or candy at clubs discretion.

d. Points or places will be given on a 15-point system. 1st place will receive 15 points, 2nd place will receive 14 points through 15th place receiving 1 point.

e. Points will be awarded to one horse and one rider in a division. No two (2) people can ride the same horse for feed or points in the same division/class event. Only the first horse and rider combination can qualify for feed and points.

f. Ties for any event will be run-off or worked out between contestants. If contestants cannot agree then showchair, or president if showchair is unavailable will decide whether to run off or flip coin. Showchair's decision is final. Both contestants get same points. Tie break is for payout only. (Does not pertain to year end awards.)

Year-end Awards

A. Each of the following classes will pay/award up to five places for year-end awards.

Pony Timed Events

Li'l Britches Timed Events (8 and under) (Barrels and Arena Race Only) Will receive trophies only.

Easy Rider Timed Events

12 and Under Timed Events

13-17 Timed Events

Ladies Timed Events

Mens Timed Events

40 and Over Timed Events (Barrels and Poles Only) Will receive buckle. *(Only 1st place will receive award).*

Youth Team Penning (Series only) *(Under 18)*

Adult Team Penning (Series only) *(Over 18)*

Youth Roping (Series only) *(Under 18)*

Adult Roping (Series only) *(Over 18)*

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Year -End Awards *(continued)*

- B. If there are less than five contestants in each class on average (only applies to year end awards), then the placing and prizes will be minimized accordingly.

The average for each division is figured as follows: total number of entries for the entire season for a specific division, divided by the number of shows for the season, then divided by the number of events in that division. The average must be at least five.

- C. In order to be eligible for the year-end awards, the same rider must ride the same horse in 60% of the yearly point shows in at least 60% of the point events.
- D. Ties for first place (saddle only) in year-end award will be run-off between tied contestants at a special event that is set by both riders at any time BEFORE awards banquet.

Article III: Membership

Section I: Eligibility

1. Membership applications are open to all persons in good standing with the association.
2. Any person seeking membership must be willing to abide by the rules and bylaws of the association.
3. A person may join JCHA at any time during the year. Dues will not be prorated and are only good for the current club year. A club year is from January 1 through December 31.

Section II: Dues and Voting Eligibility

1. Individuals 18 years and older will pay \$20.00 for membership dues. Families will pay \$25.00 for membership dues. A family consists of a father, mother and children under age of 18. This will be payable on or before January 1st of each year.
2. A member will not have voting privileges if he/she has not paid dues for the current year.
3. Voting age is 18 and over.

Section III: Benefits of Membership

1. Use of the JCHA arena in Hurley, MS. All members are given keys and/or combinations to turn on the lights, use obstacles and unlock gates for use of the arena. Members can bring guests to the arena, but guests are required to leave when the member leaves. Members are not allowed to share keys and/or combinations with non-members. Please turn off lights and lock arena if you are the last member to leave. Youth members are required to be accompanied by an adult when at the arena.
2. Members and potential members may attend monthly meetings where current events and show schedules are discussed. All of the members are encouraged to give input.
3. A newsletter is sent out to all members and posted at the arena with each month's meeting minutes and any upcoming events. Classifieds in the newsletter are free to members. Members are encouraged to send in stories and local equine news. Pictures and current point standings will be posted.
4. All members 18 and over have the privilege to vote on JCHA business.

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Section IV: Termination of Membership

1. Any member, who has not paid dues by January 31st, may be terminated.
2. Any member, who may be admitted, retained, suspended or expelled in accordance with the rules and bylaws of this association, may be terminated. In all matters governed by the vote of the members, each active member is entitled to one vote. Any member expelled will not be given a refund.
3. Any membership may be terminated in accordance with Article VIII: Disciplinary Procedures.

Article IV: Meetings and Show Information

Section I: Club Year

1. The JCHA official current club year will begin on January 1st of each calendar year and end on December 31st of that year. During this time the club will be officially active.

Section II: Club Meetings

1. Meetings of the association will be held on the first Monday night of each month at 7:00 p.m. The meetings are currently held at the Hurley Community Center.
2. The Chairman of the meetings shall be the President. However, any officer of the association may call the meeting to order and act as Chairman in the absence of the President according in the following hierarchy:
Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer.
3. All meetings shall follow the standard parliamentary procedures.

Section III: Show Schedule

1. Team Penning Events and Judged Events dates to be determined.
2. Timed Events Shows will be the 4th Saturday of each month at 6:00pm. *(amended per motion made January 2010)*

Section IV: Special Meetings

1. Emergency meetings may be called by the President or Board of Directors without prior or written notification by way of telephone. The decisions arrived at during these emergency meetings will be decided by a majority vote of the members that are able to attend. Those decisions will hold for that time, but will not necessarily become a hard, fast rule. Those meetings and the decisions made will be brought up at the next regularly scheduled meeting. If any changes are to be made, it will be done according to majority vote.
2. Any complaint of conflict that occurs during an association horse show or other club related event will be handled in the following manner: At least 2 officers and 4 members (not necessarily board members) will discuss the problem and make a decision at that time.
3. At a regularly scheduled meeting, if a motion is brought before the club and voted on, that ruling will stand. It may be brought back before the club again, only if the circumstances change enough to warrant a re-vote.

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Section IV: Order of Business

1. At the meeting of the club. The order of business so far as the character and nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows:
 - a. Call to order by President
 - b. Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.
 - c. Treasurer report given and approved.
 - d. Report of Committees
 - e. Old Business
 - f. New Business
 - g. Election of Officers (*annual meeting only*)
 - h. Motion to adjourn.

Section V: Annual Meeting of the Association

1. The annual meeting shall be held in December, at which time the officers will be elected by secret ballot and only by the members present who are eligible to vote. The newly elected officers will take office on January 1st of the new year. Each retiring officer will turn over to his successor in office all properties and records relating to that office.
2. Special elect Board members will be nominated by the members present. A quorum of no less than five (5) and no more than 10 members shall be nominated. These nominees will be asked if they are willing to accept the responsibility of this position. If agreeably to all parties, the Board will be voted on at the same time as the other officers, also by secret ballot. The newly elected Board will take office immediately following the election.

Article V: Elective Officers and Duties

Section I: Officers

President/Public Relations Representative (co-chaired with Vice-President):

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Lead in discussion at monthly meetings.
- Coordinate events and delegate responsibilities.
- Enforce rules and regulations
- JCHA spokesperson

Vice-President/Public Relations Representative (co-chaired with President):

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Act as President in his/her absence.
- Coordinate arena issues
- Produce schedules to coincide with other local arena functions.
- JCHA spokesperson

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Article V: Elective Officers and Duties *(continued)*

Secretary, Point Chairman & Membership Officer

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Keep official minutes of monthly meetings.
- Maintain JCHA information.
- Keep inventory of registration supplies.
- Produce a monthly newsletter to be posted at the arena and sent to all members via email or postal service.
- Maintain current point standings of JCHA events.
- Record monthly points earned, produce a point roster to post at JCHA functions.
- Enroll new members and maintain member information.
- Contact old members for re-enrollment.

Treasurer:

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Maintain financial records
- Provide concession stand and registration with cash boxes.
- Track JCHA expenses and transactions (JCHA checks must be signed by any 2 people on the signature card at the bank)
- Record entry fees and total show earnings
- Produce a monthly financial report to be submitted at the monthly meeting

Show Chairman:

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Maintain safety at all events
- Make decisions at events in the case of discrepancies.
- Set-up arena for each class or event

Member-at-large:

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Replaces any officer, except the President, that can no longer perform duties.

Board of Directors (appointed as needed)

Each member of the board is appointed by the officers to represent a particular JCHA event. In the event a special meeting is called, the Officers and the Board of Directors can vote on issues and all the divisions will be represented. An officer may serve on the Board of Directors as long as the total number of combined officer and directors is an odd number. Director's responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Enforcing rules of the game and fair play
- Representing their division at monthly meetings
- Presenting awards
- Acquiring sponsors
- Point of contact for individual events

Concession Stand Committee

Responsible for keeping inventory of concession stand items and supplies.

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Section II: Termination of Officers

The termination of any officer will be possible if the officer misses 2 or more consecutive regularly scheduled meetings without prior notification to the President or other officers.

An officer who violates the bylaws and best interests of the association shall turn in his/her resignation of that office immediately. If not done voluntarily, he/she will be asked to do so by the Board of Directors. That office may or may not be filled. If, by necessity, the office must be filled, it will be filled by the Member-at-Large, except for the office of President, which is filled by Vice-President only. If Vice-President is unable to accept office, then a new President must be elected by a new vote.

Any member in good standing may run for office, including the previous officers, providing they agree to accept the office and are elected by popular vote.

Article VI: Expenditures

Section I: No money shall be borrowed on behalf of the association, unless such loans are authorized and approved by a majority vote of the active members present at any regularly scheduled meeting.

Section II: No expenditures over \$500 can be made by any one member without a majority vote.

Article VII: Responsibility of Members

No member shall refuse any reasonable request to assist the association; its officers, directors or committees in the proper conduct of the affairs of the association. All association representatives shall be treated with respect, courtesy and cooperation. No person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct towards representatives. While in good standing, all members shall have equal rights, interest and responsibilities with respect to the association and its properties. Each member shall obey and be bound by all bylaws, rules and regulations of the association.

Article VIII: Disciplinary Procedures

Section I: Any member may be disciplined, fined, suspended or terminated from the association and may be denied any or all privileges whenever it shall have been established by satisfactory evidence to the Board of Directors and other members that such member has knowingly violated any rule of this association. Failure to understand will not be accepted as an excuse.

Section II: Anyone at any time may be dismissed from competition and possibly banned from all JCHA functions due to unacceptable conduct.

1st offense: verbal warning

2nd offense: asked to leave with 90-day probation and written warning

3rd offense: complete expulsion for one year

Section III: Any alcohol-related disturbances involving a member or non-member may result in immediate removal from the premises. Non-members may be banned from the JCHA arena. Club members will be brought before the Board of Directors at the next meeting and dealt with accordingly.

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Article IX: Procedure for Disbandment

Procedure for disbandment for the Jackson County Horseman's Association, reads as follows:

Any member of the above Association desiring to disband the association must present a petition signed by 34% of all voting age members (18 years and above). The association will accept said petition and hold it for 30 days, during which time the officers of the association will verify the validity of all signatures contained therein. If any signature on the petition shall prove not valid, such petition shall be ruled null and void. If said petition shall prove valid, the President of the association will call a special meeting within the next 30-day period for the purpose of acting upon above petition. All members of the association will be notified of the special meeting and purpose of the meeting by letter or phone call. This notification will be at least 10 days before the meeting. At the special meeting the association will entertain a motion from the petitioners to disband. If the motion is carried by yes vote of 75% of the members present, the association will be disbanded.

Closure:

Membership in the Jackson County Horseman's Association is a privilege, not a right. Each member should freely obey the rules and bylaws of the association. Each member should also feel a responsibility for the upkeep and improvement of the arena. The work in preparing for activities at the arena is just as important as the actual event. Everyone should try to work as a unit and in harmony in order to strengthen our club. We should also strive for what is best for the club, not individual pursuits. Hopefully, the JCHA will continue to grow and be active for many years to come. Let's be proud of our accomplishments and leave a legacy that our young folks will be proud to continue into the future.

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2011 Officers

President/Public Relations Representative

Charlie Carter 228-366-0280

Vice President/Public Relations Representative

Ken Carter 228-990-6909

Secretary/Points Chair

Candise Carter 228-218-3754

Treasurer

Nita Brown 601-508-1990

Member-at-Large

Rebecca Gooseman 228-372-4525

Show Chairman

Chris Lightsey 228-219-0566