



Constitution and Rules

2009/2010

1. Name

The name of this association is Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Incorporated

2. Objects

The objects for which the Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc. has been established are:-

- a) Encouraging excellence in the breeding, training and exhibition of registered Miniature Horses.
- b) Developing and promoting fellowship and sportsmanship between members of this club and other clubs, as well as among other people and organizations, to the betterment of the Miniature Horse.
- c) To teach members proficiency in care, horsemanship and preserving the health and welfare of the Miniature Horse.
- d) To promote informative events and shows for exhibition of Miniature Horses in halter or harness.
- e) To provide opportunities for fellowship and promote special interaction and outings with all Miniature Horse owners.
- f) To encourage enjoyment of the Miniature Horse and encourage the use of Miniature Horses in the many equestrian fields, including harness, ODE, dressage, halter and activity.
- g) To promote the Miniature Horse (up to and including 38" in height at maturity)
- h) To involve each and every member in all decisions in the running of this Club.

3. Control of Funds

- a) A reputable Bank shall be the Bank used by the Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc. for all banking services.
- b) All funds received by the MMHC will be paid into its bank account.
- c) All cheques and withdrawal slips drawn on the club account will be signed by the Treasurer, Secretary or President as appointed by the Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc. members.
- d) The income and property of the club is to be applied solely to further the aims of the Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc.

4. Members

The Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc. shall consist of members, having fully paid their membership and having been approved by the Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club at a committee/club meetings by the Committee and members in attendance. The club will keep a register of all current members including each members name, address and occupation and the date on which they became members.

5. Classes of Members

- a) Voting Member – Any person 18 years of age and over having joined and been accepted by the Association as a member and paid the annual subscription. Member to be eligible to full voting rights must own/lease or jointly own/lease a Miniature Horse registered with an approved Miniature Horse registry.
- b) Voting Family Membership – For families consisting of one or two adults and their dependant children under the age of 18 years or for families consisting of two adults. All must reside at the same address. Each adult member shall be eligible to full voting rights provided each own/lease a Miniature Horse registered with an approved Miniature Horse registry.
- c) Non Voting Member – Any person not eligible for full membership under the forgoing clauses. A non voting member has no voting rights, but is entitled to all of the other benefits of full membership and is able to attend all club meetings.
- d) Associate Family Membership – For families not eligible for full family membership. To consist of two or less adults and their dependant children. All must reside at the same address. Family members are entitled to full showing rights for each individual in their family. They are able to attend all club meetings.

6. New Members

New members may be admitted upon their written application to the Treasurer of the Club signed by themselves and Nominated & Seconded by full Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc. members and on payment of the annual subscription. All membership applications will be approved or disapproved at the next Committee/club meeting and be voted upon by all voting members present, and if accepted will be valid from that point. A joining fee of \$10.00 is payable by all applicants.

7. Annual Subscriptions

Every member shall on or before the last day of June in each and every year pay to the Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club an annual subscription fixed by resolution at the Annual General Meeting. If

membership is not paid by the last day of July in that year membership lapses and all persons must reapply to join as a new member. If a member has joined less than 3 months before an A.G.M or S.G.M they are not entitled to vote at the following A.G.M or S.G.M.

8. Conduct of Members

No member shall conduct him/herself or be guilty of any such conduct as to bring the Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club into discredit, or act in any way against the objects of the club.

9. Resignation of Members

Any member may resign from their membership by giving to the Secretary notice in writing to that effect and every such notice shall unless otherwise expressed take effect as from the date of such notice. A person who ceases to become a member remains liable to pay to the Association the amount of any subscription or other accounts due and payable by the person to the Association but unpaid at the date of that cessation. The Association will make no refund to the resigned member for any subscription already paid.

10. Expulsion of Members

The committee may at any time by letter invite any members within a specified time to retire for breach by him/her of this Constitution or any unworthy conduct including maltreatment of horses and cheating and in default of withdrawal to submit the question or expulsion and or suspension to a Special Committee meeting to be held within one calendar month from the date of such letter in hand. At such meeting the member whose expulsion and or suspension is under consideration shall be allowed to offer any explanation verbally and/or in writing and thereupon two-thirds of the members present shall vote for his/her expulsion and or suspension. They shall forthwith, without releasing him/her from any antecedent liability to the Society, cease to be a member and forfeit all rights, title and interest and shall have no claim against the Association for reimbursement of any annual subscription or any part thereof PROVIDED HOWEVER that voting at any such meeting for the expulsion and or suspension of a member shall be by ballot if so demanded by not less than five members present.

11. Alteration to Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc. Constitution and Show Rules

The club may alter, add or cancel any of these rules at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting provided that:-

- a) Written notice of the proposed change is included in the notice calling the meeting and such notice shall be sent to all members in the prescribed time frame as in "Notice of Business".
- b) A two-thirds majority of the members present at the Meeting agree to the change.
- c) No alterations, additions or cancellation will be made to these rules that are in conflict with the aims of the Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club.

12. Annual General Meeting

- a) An Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held each year in May.
- b) The business of the Annual General Meeting will include:-
 - i. Presidents report (Annual report);
 - ii. Financial Account and Treasurer's Report;
 - iii. The announcement of officers
 - iv. The appointment of an auditor to audit the financial accounts, if required by the membership;
 - v. To consider remits;
 - vi. The consideration of any other business.

13. Special General Meeting

The President or in his/her absence or inability the Vice President may at any time for any special purpose call a special general meeting and he/she shall do so forthwith upon a resolution in writing of any 10 members stating the purpose for which the meeting is required. The Secretary will give notice of a Special General Meeting no later than fourteen days after receiving the request.

14. Committee Meeting

Seven days notice is deemed to be served and not less than three committee meetings shall be held in each year at such times and places as the President, or in his/her absence or inability the Secretary or Vice President, shall direct for the purposes of transacting the business of the Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club and decide upon such resolutions as shall be duly submitted to the meeting. All committee or

club meetings or part of meetings are open to all members unless ruled closed by committee for any sensitive reason. All full financial members have speaking and voting rights at any open meetings of the association.

15. Notice of Business for Annual or Special General Meetings

- a) Thirty days notice of Annual or Special General Meetings will be given to all members stating the time, date and place of the Meeting.
- b) The Notice will include the business to be transacted at the meeting, and in the case of a Special General Meeting, the reason for calling the meeting.

16. Service of Notices

Any notice required to be given to the members or any of them shall be deemed to have been duly delivered if posted to them in a pre-paid letter addressed to them at their last known address.

17. Procedure at Annual or Special General Meetings

At all meetings the President shall take the chair or the members present shall elect one of their members to take the chair. Every full adult member shall be entitled on every motion to one vote exercised in person. In the case of an equality of votes the vote will be put to the floor again. Chairperson for the time being shall have a casting vote as well as a deliberative vote if this 2nd round of votes is still equal.

18. Proxy Votes/Postal Voting

There will be no proxy or postal voting on remits or amendments at any A.G.M or S.G.M

19. Voting Rights

Only accepted financial members shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of the association. Members shall have the following votes according to their membership classification:-

- a) Full Adult Members – One Vote
- b) Full Family Members – Each adult to have one vote. Maximum of 2 votes per family.
- c) Junior Members – No Vote.

20. Quorum

At all committee or club meetings 6 members shall constitute a quorum, at the Annual General Meeting 10 members shall constitute a quorum and at a Special General Meeting 10 members shall constitute a quorum. All meetings must include not less than 5 committee members.

21. Committee

All committee members must be full voting members of MMHC
Committee Member positions are as follows

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

6 Committee members

Voting for committee is done in the following manner

Not less than 28 days before the AGM nominations are to be called for.

Not less than 14 days before the AGM voting papers are to be posed to all voting financial members.

Not less than 5 days before the AGM votes are to be in the hands of the Returning Officer appointed by Committee.

22. Attendance at meetings

Any Committee member who fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings without the express consent of the Committee must vacate that position forthwith.

23. Vacancies on Committee

The Committee shall have the power to appoint a member to fulfil any casual vacancy on the committee. This vacancy must be notified to all members not less than 14 days before the vacancy is to be filled. The vacancy is until the next Annual General Meeting and any member so appointed shall retire at the next Annual General Meeting together with the rest of the committee but all or any of the retiring

committee shall be eligible for re-election. The committee may co-opt up to two people, as long as they own a horse registered with an approved Miniature Horse registry and are full financial members of the MMHC. A co-opted person may exercise the same rights as a member. His or her co-option will cease at the next Annual General Meeting. The committee may at its discretion invite a junior member to sit in at its meetings, and give input (no voting rights).

24. Duties of the Committee

It shall be the duty of the Committee generally to conduct the affairs of the Association and to keep usual and proper books of account properly posted up and other records of the business of the Society and to notify members of intended meetings and the business to be transacted thereat and to prepare and submit to the Annual General Meeting a report, balance sheet and statement of accounts for the preceding year. Meetings of the Committee may be convened at such times and places as the President shall decide, or in his/her absence, inability or refusal to act, the Secretary shall convene a meeting and 6 persons shall be a quorum. Sub Committees may be set up by the Committee.

25. Minutes of Meetings

Copies of minutes of a meeting are to be sent to all non-attending Committee members and will be published in the official publication after approval of each meeting.

26. Investment of Funds

The Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc. may from time to time invest and re-invest in such securities and upon such terms as it shall think fit the whole or any part of its funds, which shall not be required for the immediate business of the Association.

27. Borrowing Powers

The Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc shall in addition to the other powers vested in it have the power to borrow or raise money from time to time by the issue of Debentures, Bonds, Mortgages or any other securities founded or based on all or any of the property and/or rights of the Association or without any such security and upon such terms as to priority and otherwise as the Association shall think fit but the powers of so borrowing or raising money shall not be exercised except pursuant to a resolution of the Association passed at an Annual General Meeting, Special General Meeting, or Committee meeting.

28. Winding Up

The Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc. may be wound up if:-

- a) a 2/3rds majority of the members at a General Meeting pass a resolution to wind up the Association; and
- b) A second meeting is held not earlier than 30 days since the first meeting to confirm or reject the resolution;
- c) At the second meeting a two-thirds (2/3rds)majority of the members confirm the resolution.

In the event of the Association being wound up the surplus assets after payment of the Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc. liabilities and the expenses of the winding up shall be forwarded to an organisation with similar aims as determined by the members of the Association.

29. Regulations

The Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc. shall from time to time by resolution in committee meeting make, amend or rescind regulations not inconsistent with these rules governing procedure at its meetings and the conduct of the affairs of the Association.

30. Registered Office

The registered office of the Association shall be that of the current Secretary.

GENERAL RULES

1. Classes of Horses

Category A:

Measuring 34" (86.36cm) or less in height at maturity.

Category B:

Measuring more than 34" (86.36) but not more than 38" (96.52cm) in height at maturity.

These measurements are maximum measurements at maturity.
The Show Rules of the MMHC give a full description of Height for Age requirements.

2. Show Rules

All events, shows, ribbon days, fun days or speciality days held or organized by the Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club Inc. shall be run under the rules of the MMHC. Non-members are welcome to exhibit at any show or attend any function run by MMHC as long as their horses are registered with a recognised Miniature Horse registry – unless the committee deems it to be a closed event for financial MMHC members only. A judge must receive a copy of the show rules at least 14 days before judging (if that is practical)

3. Shows

Metropolitan Miniature Horse Club is to set and run shows and events throughout the season. All show/event dates and schedules must be approved at a Committee/club meeting. Shows and events including fun days should be spread over a range of venues as members decide fit.

4. Judges

All judges must be approved at a Committee/club meeting before they are approached to Judge. All contact with a judge on official Association business must be via the Club Secretary or Show Manager only.

5. Committee meetings

All Committee members are to be invited to Committee meetings.

6. Associations Newsletter

The Association to publish a newsletter quarterly or bi-monthly. An editor shall be appointed by the Committee and members.