



**The Cave Creek Cutting Horse  
Association**

**OFFICIAL BYLAWS**

**October 17, 2021**

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**BYLAWS**

**OF**

**THE CAVE CREEK CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION  
(an Arizona 501(c)7 not-for-profit corporation)**

**ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**1.1 Defined Terms.**

As used in these Bylaws, the term “**Eligible Votes**” means the total number of votes entitled to be cast by Members as of the record date for determining the Members entitled to vote at a meeting or in respect of any other lawful action including, but not limited to, action by written ballot or written consent. The Association has adopted Membership Guidelines (the “**Guidelines**”) which govern the operation of the Association’s primary business, namely, the promotion of the sport, art and love of cutting horses and related competition and horsemanship.

**1.2 Principal Office.**

The principal office of the Association shall be located at the known place of business of the Association designated in the Articles or such other place as the Association may designate from time to time in accordance with the Arizona Nonprofit Corporation Act, but meetings of members and directors may be held at such other place within the State of Arizona as may be designated by the Board.

**1.3 Conflicting Provisions.**

In the case of any conflict between the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws, the Articles of Incorporation shall control.

**1.4 Designation of Fiscal Year.**

The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on the 1st day of January and end on the 31st day of December of every year, except that the first fiscal year shall begin on the date of incorporation of the Association.

**1.5 Financial Records.**

An annual report in the form and content as required by applicable law shall be made available to all Members within such time following the close of each fiscal year as may be required by applicable law.

**1.6 Amendment.**

These Bylaws may be amended by the Board of Directors upon approval of 2/3 of the Board. The Bylaws shall be made available to the Members via the website, by email, or by mail.

**1.7 Indemnification.**

The Association shall indemnify its officers and directors to the maximum extent permitted by law.

**ARTICLE 2. MEETINGS OF MEMBERS**

**2.1 Annual Meeting.**

Annual meetings of the Members of the Association shall be held each year on the date and in the place determined by the Board.

**2.2 Special Meetings.**

Special meetings of the Members may be called at any time by the president or by the Board or upon written demand signed by Members having at least one-fourth (1/4) of the Eligible Votes. The close of business on the thirtieth (30<sup>th</sup>) day before delivery of the demand or demands for a special meeting shall be the record date for the purpose of determining whether the demand for the special meeting has been signed by Members having at least one-fourth (1/4) of the Eligible Votes.

**2.3 Notice of Meetings.**

Written or email notice of each meeting of the Members shall be given by, or at the direction of, the Secretary or person authorized to call the meeting by mailing or emailing a copy of each notice at least ten (10) but not more than sixty (60) days before such meeting to each Member entitled to vote thereat addressed to the Member's address or email address last appearing on the books of the Association or supplied by such Member to the Association for the purpose of notice. Such notice shall specify the place, day and hour of the meeting, and, in the case of a special meeting, the purpose of the meeting. When a meeting is adjourned to another date, time or place, a notice of the new date, time or place is not required if the new date, time or place is announced at the meeting before adjournment. At the adjourned meeting, the Association may transact any business which might have been transacted at the original meeting. If a new record date for the adjourned meeting is or must be fixed under Section 2.6, the Association shall give notice of the adjourned meeting pursuant to this Section to persons who are Members as of the new record date.

A Member's attendance at a meeting waives objection to the lack of notice or defective notice of the meeting, unless the Member at the beginning of the meeting objects to holding the meeting and transacting business at the meeting. In addition, a Member's attendance at a meeting waives objection to consideration of a particular matter at the meeting that is not within

the purpose or purposes described in the meeting notice, unless the Member objects to considering the matter at the time it is presented.

#### **2.4 Quorum.**

Except as otherwise provided in the Articles or these Bylaws, the members present at the meeting shall constitute a quorum.

#### **2.5 Absentee Ballots: Proxies.**

At all meetings of the Members a vote may be cast in person or by absentee ballots in a manner that is consistent with applicable law. No Member may appoint a proxy to vote or otherwise act for the Member.

#### **2.6 Record Date.**

For any meeting of the Members, the Board shall fix a date as the record date for determining the Members entitled to notice of the meeting. If the Board fails to fix a record date for any meeting of the Members, the record date for determining the Members entitled to notice of the meeting shall be the business day before the day on which the notice of the meeting is given. The Board shall also fix a date as the record date for determining the Members entitled to vote at a meeting of the Members. If the Board fails to fix such a record date, the Members on the date of the meeting who are otherwise eligible to vote are entitled to vote at the meeting.

A determination of Members entitled to notice of or to vote at a meeting of the Members is effective for any adjournment of the meeting, unless the Board fixed a new date for determining the right to notice or the right to vote. The Board shall fix a new date for determining the right to notice or the right to vote if the meeting is adjourned to a date that is more than seventy (70) days after the record date for determining Members entitled to notice of the original meeting.

The Board shall fix a date as the record date for the purpose of determining the Members entitled to exercise any rights in respect of any other lawful action of the Members. If a record date is not fixed by the Board, Members at the close of business on the day on which the Board adopts the resolution relating to that record date, or the sixtieth (60) day before the date of other action, whichever is later, are entitled to exercise those rights.

The record date fixed by the Board under this Section shall not be more than seventy (70) days before the meeting or action requiring a determination of Members. If a court orders a meeting adjourned to another date, the original record date for notice of voting continues in effect.

#### **2.7 Organization and Conduct of Meeting.**

All Members attending a meeting of the Members shall register with the Secretary (or such person or persons as may be designated by the Secretary) prior to commencement of the meeting. All meetings of the Members will be called to order and chaired by the President of the Association, or if there is no President or if the President is absent or so requests, then by the Vice President. If both the President and Vice President are not present at the meeting, any other

officer of the Association or such member of the Association as is appointed by the Board may call the meeting to order and chair the meeting. The chair of the meeting may appoint an agent to chair the meeting or portions thereof. The chair of the meeting may appoint any person (whether or not a Member of the Association) to act as a recording secretary to keep the minutes for the meeting. The chair of the meeting shall have the authority to determine the order of business to be conducted at the meeting and to establish reasonable rules for expediting the business of the meeting, but the rulings of the chair with respect to such matters may be overruled by Members having more than fifty percent (50%) of the votes represented in person or by absentee ballot at the meeting.

## **2.8 Action by Written Ballot.**

Any action that the Association may take at any annual, regular or special meeting of the Members may be taken without a meeting if the Association delivers a written or emailed ballot to every Member entitled to vote on the matter. The ballot shall set forth each proposed action and provide an opportunity to vote for or against each proposed action. All solicitations for votes by ballot shall: (a) indicate the number of responses needed to meet the quorum requirements; (b) state the percentage of approvals necessary to approve each matter other than election of directors; and (c) specify the time by which a ballot must be delivered to the Association in order to be counted, which time shall not be less than three (3) days after the date that the Association delivers the ballot. Once a ballot has been received by the Association, the ballot may not be revoked. Approval by ballot pursuant to this Section will consist of a simple majority of the votes received.

## **2.9 Action by Written Consent.**

The Members may approve any action required or permitted by law that requires the Members' approval without a meeting of the Members if the action is approved by Members holding at least a majority of the Eligible Votes, unless the Articles, these Bylaws or applicable law require a different amount of Eligible Votes. The action shall be evidenced by one or more written consents describing the action taken, signed by those Members representing at least the requisite amount of the Eligible Votes, and delivered to the Association for inclusion in the minutes or filing with the corporate records of the Association.

If not otherwise fixed by the Board pursuant to Section 2.6, the record date for determining Members entitled to act without a meeting is the date the first Member signs the consent to the action. A consent signed under this Section has the effect of a meeting vote and may be described as such in any document. Written notice of Member approval pursuant to this Section shall be given to all Members who have not signed the written consent. Unless otherwise specified in the consent or consents, the action is effective on the date that the consent or consents are signed by the last Member whose signature results in the requisite amount of the Eligible Votes. Any Member may revoke the Member's consent by delivering a signed revocation of the consent to the President or Secretary before the date that the consent or consents are signed by the last Member whose signature results in the requisite amount of the Eligible Votes.

### **2.10 Voting Requirements.**

If a quorum is present at a meeting of the Members, the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes represented and voting is the act of the Members.

## **ARTICLE 3. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **3.1 Number and Terms of Office.**

The affairs of this Association shall be managed by a board of directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of at least three (3) but no more than eleven (11) directors. All directors must be Members of the Association. The Board may increase or decrease the number of directors on the Board within the minimum and maximum number of directors prescribed by this Section, but the number of directors must always be an odd number. If the number of directors is increased by the Board, the persons appointed to fill the vacancies created by the new directorships shall serve until the next annual meeting of the Members at which time the Members shall determine the term of office of each new directorship and elect a successor to the person appointed by the Board.

Directors shall serve for a term of three (3) years or as otherwise determined by the Members and set forth in an appropriate resolution. Despite the expiration of a director's term, a director shall continue to hold office until the director's successor is elected, designated or appointed and qualified, until the director's resignation or removal or until there is a decrease in the number of directors.

### **3.2 Appointment and Election.**

The directors shall be elected by the Members at the annual meeting of the Members or by mailed or emailed ballot to the Members. For each election of directors, the Board shall either prescribe an opening and closing date of a reasonable filing period in which each eligible person may declare their candidacy for election to the Board by giving written notice thereof to the Secretary of the Association or appoint a nominating committee to nominate candidates for election to the Board. The Board may also establish such other rules and regulations as it deems appropriate with respect to the nomination and election of directors. In each election of directors, the number of candidates equal to the number of positions to be filled receiving the greatest number of votes shall be deemed elected. Cumulative voting will not be permitted in the election of directors. It is preferable to stagger the election of directors to maintain consistency and facilitate the transfer of key information for smooth operations of the association.

### **3.3 Resignation of Directors.**

A director may resign at any time by delivering written notice to the Board, its presiding officer or the Association. A resignation is effective when the notice is delivered unless the notice specifies a later effective date or event. If a resignation is made effective at a later date, the



Board may fill the pending vacancy before the effective date if the Board provides that the successor does not take office until the effective date.

### **3.4 Removal of Directors.**

Any one or more of the members of the Board may be removed from the Board with or without cause by Members holding more than fifty percent (50%) of the Eligible Votes or as otherwise provided by applicable law.

### **3.5 Compensation.**

No director shall receive compensation for any service she or he may render to the Association, unless such compensation is approved by Members holding more than fifty percent (50%) of the Eligible Votes. The one exception is when a member of the Board also serves as the association show secretary. In this case, the Board shall vote on the compensation for these duties. Any director may be reimbursed for his actual expenses incurred in the performance of his duties.

### **3.6 Conflict of Interest.**

A director shall recuse him/herself from a vote when the outcome of a Board vote could result in a financial benefit to the director or director's family.

### **3.7 Action Taken Without a Meeting.**

The directors shall have the right to take any action in the absence of a meeting which they could take at a meeting by obtaining the written (including email or text) consent of all the directors. Any such written consent shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board. Any action taken by the Board pursuant to this Section shall be effective when the last director signs the consent, unless the consent specifies a different effective date. Each director shall have one (1) vote.

### **3.8 Vacancies.**

Any vacancy occurring in the Board may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors though less than a quorum or by a sole remaining director, and any director so chosen shall serve the remainder of the term of the director he replaces. Any newly created directorship shall be deemed a vacancy. If by reason of death, resignation or otherwise, the Association has no directors in office, any officer or Member may call a special meeting of the Members for the purpose of electing the Board.

### **3.9 Meetings.**

If the time and place of a meeting of the Board is fixed by the Board, the meeting is a regular meeting. All other meetings of the Board are special meetings. Regular meetings of the Board may be held with or without notice to the directors of the date, time, place or purpose of the meeting.

Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President on two (2) business days notice to each director, given in writing, by hand delivery, mail or email, which notice shall state the time, place and purpose of the meeting. Special meetings of the Board shall be called by the President or Secretary in like manner and on like notice on the written request of at least two (2) directors.

A director's attendance at or participation in a meeting waives any required notice to the director of the meeting, unless the director at the beginning of the meeting or promptly on the director's arrival at the meeting objects to holding the meeting or transacting business at the meeting and does not thereafter vote for or assent to action taken at the meeting.

A director may participate in a regular or special meeting of the Board through the use of any means of communication by which all directors participating may simultaneously hear each other during the meeting, and a director participating in a meeting by such means is deemed to be present in person at the meeting.

Notice of meetings of the Board shall be given to the Members of the Association within such time and in such manner as is required by law.

### **3.10 Quorum and Voting.**

A majority of the prescribed number of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If a quorum is present when a meeting is convened, the quorum shall be deemed to exist until the meeting is adjourned, notwithstanding the departure of one or more directors. If a quorum is present when a vote is taken, the affirmative vote of a majority of directors present is the act of the Board, unless the Articles or Bylaws require the vote of a greater number of directors.

A director who is present at a meeting of the Board when corporate action is taken is deemed to have assented to the action taken unless either: (a) the director objects at the beginning of the meeting or promptly on the director's arrival to holding it or transacting business at the meeting; (b) the director's dissent or abstention from the action taken is entered in the minutes of the meeting; or (c) the director delivers written notice of the director's dissent or abstention to the presiding officer of the meeting before its adjournment or to the Association before 5:00 P.M. on the next business day after the meeting. The right of dissent or abstention is not available to a director who votes in favor of the action taken.

A director may not assign a proxy to vote.

### **3.11 Powers and Duties.**

The Board shall have all of the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the Association's affairs and for performing all responsibilities and exercising all rights of the

Association as set forth in the Guidelines or as provided by law. The Board may do or cause to be done any act which the Guidelines do not direct to be done by the Members.

The duties of the Board shall include, without limitation:

- (1) opening bank accounts on behalf of the Association and designate the signatories thereon;
- (2) making, or contracting for the making, of repairs, additions to, improvements to or alterations of the properties owned or leased by the Association;
- (3) enforcing the provisions of the Guidelines by any and all means authorized by the Guidelines or by law; provided, however, that the Association shall not be obligated to take action to enforce any provision of the Guidelines if the Board determines, in its sole discretion, that because of the strength of the Association's position, possible defenses, the time and expenses of litigation or other enforcement action, the likelihood of a result favorable to the Association or other factors deemed relevant by the Board, enforcement action would not be appropriate or in the best interests of the Association;
- (4) designating, hiring and dismissing the personnel necessary for the maintenance, operation, repair, replacement of the Association's property and providing services for the Members, and, where appropriate, providing for the compensation of such personnel and for the purchase of equipment, supplies and material to be used by such personnel in the performance of their duties;
- (5) providing for the operation, care, upkeep and maintenance of all of the Association's property, borrowing money on behalf of the Association when required in connection with the operation, upkeep and maintenance for the Association's property;
- (6) preparing and adopting a budget for the Association prior to the commencement of each fiscal year and set the membership dues and fees;
- (7) adopting changes, supplements or modifications to the Guidelines;

- (8) declaring the office of a member of the Board to be vacant in the event such member shall be absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the Board;
- (9) employing, hiring and dismissing such employees as they deem necessary and to prescribe their duties and their compensation;
- (10) causing to be kept a complete record of all its acts and corporate affairs;
- (11) supervising all officers, agents and employees of the Association and seeing that their duties are properly performed;
- (12) levying, collecting and enforcing the payment of membership dues and fees in accordance with the provisions of the Guidelines;
- (13) procuring and maintaining adequate property, liability and other insurance as required by the Guidelines, or as dictated by prudent business practices; and
- (14) causing all officers or employees having fiscal responsibilities to be bonded, as the Board may deem appropriate.

### **3.12 Managing Agent.**

The Board may employ for the Association a professional manager ("**Managing Agent**") at a compensation established by the Board. The Board may delegate to the Managing Agent such powers as are necessary for the Managing Agent to perform the duties assigned to the Managing Agent by the Board, but the Board shall not delegate to the Managing Agent policymaking authority or the power to:

- (1) adopt the annual budget, any amendment thereto or to levy membership fees and dues;
- (2) adopt, repeal or amend the Guidelines;
- (3) designate signatories on Association bank accounts;
- (4) borrow money on behalf of the Association;
- (5) acquire real property on behalf of the Association.

### **3.13 Suspension of Member Rights or Privileges.**

The Board shall not suspend the voting rights of a Member, a Member's right to use the Association's property or any other right or privilege of a Member pursuant to any authority to suspend such rights granted to the Board in the Guidelines without first complying with procedures set forth in this Section. Written notice of any such suspension (the "**Suspension Notice**") shall be given to the Member at least fifteen (15) days prior to the effective date of the suspension, and such notice shall state the reasons for such suspension. The notice shall also advise the Member of the Member's opportunity to submit to the Board at least five (5) days before the effective date of the suspension a written statement contesting the suspension and setting forth the Member's position with respect to the suspension. Notwithstanding the submission of a written statement by the Member, the suspension shall become effective on the effective date set forth in the Suspension Notice, unless the Board decides that the suspension should not become effective.

## **ARTICLE 4. OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES**

### **4.1 Enumeration of Officers.**

The principal officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. All officers shall be elected by the Board. The president must be a member of the Board. Any other officers may, but need not, be members of the Board. The Board may elect such other officers as the Board deems desirable, each of whom shall hold office for such period, have such authority, and perform such duties as the Board may, from time to time, determine. The same individual may simultaneously hold more than one office in the Association.

### **4.2 Election of Officers.**

The election of officers shall take place at the first meeting of the Board following each annual meeting of the Members.

### **4.3 Term.**

The officers of the Association shall be elected by the Board and each shall hold office for three (3) years unless she or he shall sooner resign, or shall be removed, or otherwise disqualified to serve.

### **4.4 Resignation and Removal.**

Any officer may be removed from office with or without cause by the Board. Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Association. A resignation is effective when the notice is delivered unless the notice specifies a later date or event. The acceptance of a resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective. If a resignation is made effective at a later

date or event and the Board accepts the later effective date, the Board may fill the pending vacancy before the effective date if the Board provides that the successor shall not take office until the effective date.

#### **4.5 Vacancies.**

A vacancy in any office may be filled by appointment by the Board. The officer appointed to such vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the term of the officer he replaces.

#### **4.6 Powers and Duties.**

To the extent such powers and duties are not assigned or delegated to a Managing Agent pursuant to Section 3.11, the powers and duties of the officers shall be as follows:

#### **4.7 President.**

The president shall be the chief executive officer of the Association; shall preside at all meetings of the Board or the Members; and have general and active management of the business of the Association.

#### **4.8 Vice-President.**

The vice-president shall act in the place and stead of the president in the event of his absence, inability or refusal to act, and shall exercise and discharge such other duties as may be required of him by the Board.

#### **4.9 Secretary.**

The secretary shall record the votes and keep the minutes of all meetings and proceedings of the Board and of the Members; serve notice of meetings of the Board and of the Members; keep appropriate current records showing the Members of the Association together with their addresses, and shall perform such other duties as required by the Board.

#### **4.10 Treasurer.**

The treasurer shall receive and deposit in appropriate bank accounts all monies of the Association and shall disburse such funds for appropriate Association purposes as set forth in the Guidelines; keep proper books of account; prepare an annual budget and a statement of income and expenditures; and, in general, perform all the duties incident to the office of treasurer. Notwithstanding the generality of the foregoing, the following specific duties and powers are granted to the Treasurer:

- a. Safeguard and be responsible for all the Association funds, financial records and transactions; present a monthly accounting of receipts and disbursements and an annual accounting for examination by the Board;
- b. Receive money for dues, fees, assessments, gifts, and other revenue to pay all bills as presented by these Bylaws or the Board;

- c. Make all reports required by law, these Bylaws, or the Board;
- d. Obtain insurance for Association events and safeguarding polices and insurance binders, making such available to event hosts and venue officials;
- e. Be responsible for filling of all tax forms with appropriate local, state and federal taxing authorities;

#### **4.11 Limits on Expenditures.**

The Treasurer is authorized to make expenditures up to \$5,000 under his or her own authority. Expenditures between \$5,001 to \$10,000 require two officers written approval. Expenditures over \$10,000 require Board approval and resolution giving the Treasurer or other named officer authority to spend at that level.

### **ARTICLE 5. COMMITTEES**

#### **5.1 Committees of the Board.**

The Board may create one or more committees and appoint members of the Board to serve on them. Each committee shall have one or more members, and each member of a committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The creation of a committee and appointment of members of the Board to the committee must be approved by the greater of: (a) a majority of all the directors in office when the action is taken; or (b) the number of directors required by Section 3.9 to take action. The provisions of these Bylaws governing meetings, action without meetings and notice, waiver of notice, quorum and voting requirements of the Board shall also apply to committees and their members.

Each committee of the Board may exercise the authority of the Board to the extent specified by the Board, except that a committee shall not take any of the following actions: (a) authorize distributions; (b) approve or recommend to the Members any action that requires the Members' approval under the Guidelines or by law; (c) fill vacancies on the Board or on any of its committees; (d) adopt, amend or repeal these Bylaws; and (e) fix the compensation of directors for serving on the Board of Directors or any committee of the Board. The Board may designate one or more directors as alternate members of any committee who may replace any absent member at any meeting of the committee.

#### **5.2 Other Committees.**

In addition to Committees of the Board, the Board may appoint committees consisting of members and/or non-members of the Board to perform such tasks as the Board deems necessary or desirable. Any such committees shall be advisory only and shall not have the power to exercise any authority of the Board.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, being all of the directors of the Association, have hereunto set our hands effective as of \_\_\_\_\_ .

_____ Jade Keller, President	_____ Tosten Peterson, Vice President
_____ Wendy McLaughlin, Secretary	_____ Lisa Haldane, Treasurer
_____ Tim Horn	_____ Terry Gammill
_____ Bret Nuttall	_____ Diana Vold
_____ Vicki Costello	_____ Kathy Unfried, Show Secretary

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned do hereby certify:

THAT I am the duly elected and acting secretary of the Association, and,

THAT the foregoing Bylaws constitute the original Bylaws of said Association, as duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors thereof, held on July 1, 2020.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ .

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Wendy L. McLaughlin, Secretary