



By-Laws

Revised February 27, 2024

All conflicts regarding application or interpretation of any of the foregoing rules, or any such situation arising not specifically covered by these rules or United States Equestrian Federation (U.S.E.F.) rules shall be resolved as promptly as possible by the Board of Directors.

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Table of Contents

Name	Pg. 3
Purpose	Pg. 3
Membership	Pg. 3
Classes of Membership	Pg. 3
Eligibility of Membership	Pg. 4
Membership Dues	Pg. 5
Penalties	Pg. 5
Officers	Pg. 6
Board of Directors	Pg. 8
Nominations	Pg. 9
Committees	Pg. 9
Meetings	Pg. 10
Rules	Pg. 10
Amendments	Pg. 11
Miscellaneous	Pg. 11
Felony Charges	Pg. 11
Certification	Pg. 11

ARTICLE 1. NAME

The name of this association shall be Tri-State Gymkhana Association, Inc.

Effective January 1999 this association will do business as Southern New England Horsemen's Association.

ARTICLE 2. PURPOSE

2-1. The purpose of this association is as follows:

2-1-1. To ensure and promote interest in horse shows.

2-1-2. To work toward a better understanding among show committees, exhibitors, judges, and others interested in horse shows.

2-1-3. To set dates of member shows to avoid conflicts.

2-1-4. To make and enforce uniform rules governing horse shows, exhibitors, and judges.

2-1-5. To adjust disputes which arise between those holding horse shows and others, insofar as the authority of this association goes.

2-1-6. To maintain records of horses and riders participating at member shows to award such annual S.N.E.H.A. championships as it sees fit.

ARTICLE 3. MEMBERSHIP

3-1. Membership period runs from January 1st through December 31st of the current year.

3-2. Classes of Membership - Membership shall be of two classes, as follows:

3-2-1. Voting Members

- a. Honorary Members
- b. Individual Members
- c. Family Membership

Under no circumstances shall a member have more than one vote.

3-2-2. Non-voting members

- a. Any member under 18 years of age as of January 1st of the current year.

3-3. Eligibility of Membership

3-3-1. Age of exhibitor will be determined as of January 1st of the current year.

3-3-2. Honorary Members shall be any person deemed to be eligible by the Board of Directors as having made a worthy contribution to the sport, having displayed an unselfish interest in activities of member shows and/or whose counsel, experience, and leadership are considered valuable to the Association. A letter recommending an individual for Honorary Membership may be submitted by any member or group of members to the Board of Directors. Honorary Members shall be nominated by the Board of Directors and shall be elected only after acceptance by the nominees. Honorary Members may hold office. Honorary Membership to include family membership.

3-3-3. Individual Members shall be all persons who are at least 18 years of age and shall be accepted for membership upon receipt of application and payment of dues and shall remain so until that member resigns, fails to pay current dues, or is expelled from membership under Article 3-5 of these By-Laws. Individual Members shall be entitled to vote at the Annual and all Membership Meetings of this Association and shall be eligible to hold office.

3-3-4. Family membership shall consist of one or two parents and any of their children, or grandchildren, who have not reached their

18th birthday as of January 1st of the current year. Those individuals who have not reached their 18th birthday shall be considered Junior members. Each parent shall be considered as an Individual Member. A family shall be accepted for membership upon receipt of application and payment of dues and shall remain so until failure to pay current dues, expulsion from membership under Article 3-5 of these By-Laws, or until the parent or legal guardian is no longer a member in good standing. Only the parents in a Family Membership are entitled to vote at the Annual and all Membership Meetings of this Association and shall be eligible to hold office.

3-4. Membership Dues

3-4-1. Honorary Members shall not be required to pay annual dues.

3-4-2. Dues of Individual Members who are at least 18 years of age shall be \$20.00 per year and are due on January 1st of each year.

3-4-3. Dues for Family Memberships shall be \$30.00 per year and are due on January 1st of each year.

3-4-4. All applicants for membership must submit their dues with their application.

3-5. Penalties

3-5-1. It shall be within the power of the Board of Directors to censor, fine, suspend or expel any Honorary Member, Individual Member or any individual of a Family Membership, providing that such member has been given at least ten (10) days notice by Registered or Certified Mail of a hearing at a Board Of Directors Meeting on the question and an opportunity to appear. Such action may be taken upon complaint of violation of the rules of this Association and for conduct deemed to be improper, dishonest, unsportsmanlike, intemperate, or prejudicial to the best interests of the sport and this Association.

3-5-2. There will be a \$20.00 fee for any returned check, along with any applicable bank charges. Should any individual present this Association with two (2) or more returned checks, this individual shall be required to pay with cash or money order in the future.

3-5-3. The Board of Directors has the right to withhold a member's participation in S.N.E.H.A. sponsored events if the member has an outstanding balance with the Association. Upon payment of balance, the member may resume participation in S.N.E.H.A. sponsored events.

ARTICLE 4. OFFICERS

4-1. The Officers of this Association shall be as follows: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, and two (2) Point Recorders.

4-1-1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors. The President shall, with approval of the Board of Directors, sign all contracts and other obligations of the Association. The President shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the Nominating Committee.

4-1-2. The Vice President shall be assigned duties by the President and will be responsible to the President and Board of Directors for such duties. In the absence or resignation of both, the Second Vice President shall conduct the business of the Association.

4-1-3. The Recording Secretary shall give notice of the Annual and all Special Meetings to the members. The Recording Secretary shall take minutes of all meetings and shall keep all correspondence and all records of the Association. The Recording Secretary shall act as Assistant Treasurer when required in the performance of all or part of the Treasurer's duties and shall furnish an adequate bond at the

expense of the Association. The Recording Secretary shall conduct the business of the Association if the President or Vice Presidents are not available.

4-1-4. The Treasurer shall collect all funds due the Association, shall have the care and custody of these funds and shall deposit the same in a safe depository. The Treasurer shall keep proper books of account, showing the funds received and the disposition of such funds. The Treasurer shall furnish an adequate bond at the expense of the Association. The Treasurer shall make a report at each Membership Meeting and whenever required to do so by the President or Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall conduct the business of the Association if the President, Vice Presidents and the Recording Secretary are not available. There shall be an audit of the financial accounts of the Association at least once every year or upon change of the Treasurer during the year. This audit shall be conducted by two (2) qualified persons selected by the President and approved by the Board of Directors.

4-1-5. The Membership Secretary shall be responsible for all membership registration, dues, and other duties as assigned by the President.

4-1-6. The Point Recorders shall keep on file a complete record of all points. These are to be available at all times for inspection by those desiring to do such.

4-2. Officers shall be elected at a meeting of the Association to be held on the last Tuesday of October.

4-3. Installation shall be at the Annual Awards Banquet, and officers shall serve for one (1) year thereafter and/or until their successors have been elected; the President shall serve for a maximum of four consecutive terms of one year. The President must then have a one year break in office before being eligible for nomination or re-election by the membership.

4-4. All Officers shall be responsible to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 5. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

5-1. The Board of Directors shall consist of seventeen (17) Directors. The eight (8) Officers, the immediate past President, and eight (8) Association Members. One half or four (4) of the non officer directors shall be elected each year at the October meeting for two-year terms and/or until their successors have been chosen. Terms of Directors shall commence following installation at the Annual Awards Banquet.

5-2. The Board of Directors shall fill any vacancy occurring within its body with the exception of the immediate past President; the appointee to complete the unexpected term.

5-3. The immediate past President of S.N.E.H.A. shall automatically be a Director of the Association and shall remain as such for a period of one (1) year as long as the past President is a member in good standing and so long as the attendance criteria of Article 5-5-3 are met.

5-4. The Board of Directors may fill any vacancy caused by the resignation or death of any officer unless it feels a special election should be held for the purpose of filling said vacancy. In the event such a special election is not called by the Board of Directors to fill said vacancy, any twenty (20) members may petition the Board of Directors in writing that such election be held upon receipt of such petition. The Board of Directors shall call the Special Meeting for said purpose within three (3) days from receipt of said petition.

5-5. Board of Directors Meeting

5-5-1. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once every month and shall conduct the affairs and business of the Association. At all meetings of the Board of Directors nine (9) members shall constitute a quorum.

5-5-2. Any member may attend any regular meeting of the Board of Directors upon written request of the member and approval of the President or by invitation of the Board of Directors.

5-5-3. Should any Board Member be absent more than three (3) Board Meetings (unexcused) in any calendar year the Board of Directors shall have the right to review that person's standing within the board.

ARTICLE 6: NOMINATIONS

6-1. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three (3) members of this Association, except the President.

6-2. By the September Board of Directors Meeting the Nominating Committee shall present to the Board of Directors the slate of Officers and Directors it recommends for election at the election meeting and it shall be published in the October newsletter.

6-2-1. Nominations for both Officers and Board of Directors close in September at the General Membership Meeting. Names of nominees and a short write up on each nominee to be communicated to the membership. Elections to be held at the October General Membership Meeting. Nominations for any position will only be taken from the floor the night of elections if there are no nominees for that position at the September General Membership Meeting or if an individual accepted a nomination but did not "win" the vote and wished to be considered for another position.

ARTICLE 7. COMMITTEES

7-1. At or immediately following the Annual Meeting, the President shall appoint the following committees: judges, show, awards and banquet, by-laws and rules, public relations, and whatever other committees are deemed as necessary by the President, subject to approval of the Board of Directors. Representation on these committees may be drawn from all classes of membership.

ARTICLE 8. MEETINGS

8-1. The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held on the last Tuesday during the month of March of each year.

8-2. The order of business at the Annual Meeting shall be as follows:

1. Qualifying of members present.
2. Reading of the minutes of the last annual meeting and all subsequent special meetings.
3. Annual written report of the Treasurer.
4. Submission of the show dates for the ensuing year.
5. Report of committees.
6. Deferred Business.
7. New Business.
8. Adjournment.

This order of business may be changed by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

8-3. Special Member Meetings may be called at the discretion of the Board of Directors. At least two (2) weeks written notice of such meeting and purpose of such to be given to all members.

8-4. In addition to other meetings of the membership otherwise provided for, there shall be meetings of the membership held on the last Tuesday of each month March through November, preceding the monthly Board of Directors meetings, for any members that wish to raise points for discussion. Attendance is not required for year-end awards.

ARTICLE 9. RULES

9-1. This Association shall maintain uniform rules established by the Board of Directors with the approval of this Association. The rules may be amended and added to by the Board of Directors at any time during the

year, when the Board of Directors feel immediate action is necessary. All rule changes and amendments brought to the Board by the General Membership must be submitted in writing prior to the September Board of Directors Meeting. Submitted rule changes will be recommended or not recommended by the Board of Directors and voted on at the October meeting by the General Membership.

9-2. Members may at any time make written suggestions to the rules committee for consideration to be brought to the Board of Directors for recommendation or denial and to be acted upon at the proper time.

ARTICLE 10. AMENDMENTS

10-1. The By-Laws may be added to, altered, or amended at any Special Meeting of the Association by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the voting members present at the meeting.

ARTICLE 11. MISCELLANEOUS

11-1. Any use of a particular gender herein shall be read to include the other, and the singular to include the plural.

ARTICLE 12. FELONY CHARGES

12-1. Any person convicted of a felony is required to inform the Board of Directors of their conviction or pending charges before accepting a Board nomination. Also, any convicted felon or person with a pending felony case must inform the Board of such before accepting positions of help at the shows.

ARTICLE 13. CERTIFICATION AND REVISION

13-1. Certified by the S.N.E.H.A. Board of Directors on February 27, 2024.