



# 2026 SWAQHA By-Laws

## ARTICLE I - NAME

*The name of the Association shall be  
SOUTHWEST AMATEUR QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION.*

## ARTICLE II - LOCATION

*The office of the Southwest Amateur Quarter Horse Association shall be located at the address of the Secretary.*

## ARTICLE III - PURPOSE

- 1. To promote interest in quarter horses from a regional standpoint, in cooperation with the American Quarter Horse Association.*
- 2. To promote and stimulate interest in regional quarter horse shows and other quarter horse activities.*
- 3. To promote educational and training programs on quarter horses.*
- 4. To give year end awards to amateur members, number of runner up placings and amounts to be determined annually.*
- 5. Both SWAQHA and SWQHYA are divisions of SWQHA; therefore, they are responsible to the parent association for their actions and deeds, whether implied or specific. All amateur members must comply with the parent association's rules for eligibility for awards.*

## ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

- 1. Eligibility: Any person who meets the American Quarter Horse Association's Amateur eligibility requirements as described in the current AQHA handbook.*
- 2. All members, while in good standing, shall have equal rights, interests and responsibilities with respect to the association, and shall have the right to hold office and committee assignments, except as otherwise limited.*
- 3. If an Amateur is suspended or disciplined by the Southwest Quarter Horse Association, the Amateur is automatically suspended and/or disciplined by the Southwest Quarter Horse Association.*
- 4. Members of the same family are eligible to vote. Members of the same family are eligible to be nominated and hold office.*

## ARTICLE V - MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS

*Meetings will be called at the discretion of the board. A Board of Directors meeting shall be held as necessary at a place designated by the Board. Any member may attend, with voice, but without vote. Each director shall have a vote. The election of officers and directors shall be held at the annual membership meeting in December of each year. A nominating committee of no fewer than three shall be named by the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Duties of the officers shall be those duties common to the office of other organizations, and such other duties as shall be assigned by the Board of Directors. There shall be at least three (3) elected directors and the immediate past*



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*President. Each officer and director must be a paid up member of the Southwest Quarter Horse Association and the Southwest Amateur Quarter Horse Association for the upcoming year and be 19 years or older before assuming the office. Three to five directors shall be elected for the term of one (1) year.*

## **ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- 1. The Board of Directors shall take whatever action is deemed necessary to carry out the purposed of the Association.*
- 2. A simple majority of the Board of Directors' membership shall be present to constitute a quorum.*

## **ARTICLE VII - POINTS**

- 1. Points towards awards will count only if membership dues in the Southwest Quarter Horse Association and Southwest Amateur Quarter Horse Association are paid prior to the first class of any given show. Points begin to accumulate when dues are paid and are not retroactive.*

## **ARTICLE VII**

- 1. In order to win SWAQHA class awards, a membership fee of \$20 must be paid to the SWAQHA prior to showing for points to count.*

## **ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS**

- 1. By-laws may be repealed, modified, amended or adopted only at the annual membership meeting. Any amendment requires a two-thirds majority vote of those members voting. Amendments can be made retroactive, only to the beginning of the Association's current year.*