

BYLAWS

of the ALABAMA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Revised and Adopted September 26th, 2015

Article 1 – Meetings

- Section 1:** The Association shall have a regularly scheduled annual meeting, in the fall of each year. It shall be called the Fall Conference. The Association shall conduct business and elect Officers and Directors at the Fall Conference. A quorum of a majority of those eligible to vote, present in person at any meeting, shall be necessary to transact business.
- Section 2:** Special meetings of the Association may be called at any time by the Board of Directors.
- Section 3:** The Board of Directors shall meet at least once each quarter, either in person or by live electronic medium. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the call of the President, or by any four members of the Board, but no meeting shall be held without notice of the time and place being given to every member of the Board of Directors at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the meeting.

Article 2 – Elections

- Section 1:** The officers of this Association shall be elected, by ballot, at the annual meeting each year, for a term of one year.
- Section 2:** The offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer cannot succeed themselves in that office for more than one additional term, the intent being to limit incumbency in these positions to no more than two years, consecutively.
- Section 3:** Two of the six (6) Directors of the Association shall be elected by the Association at each annual meeting for a term of three years. The positions shall consist of six (6) members (two (2) each from the Northern, Middle and Southern region of the state); and shall be representative of all beekeepers.

Section 4: Officers' and Directors' terms will commence at the end of the Fall Conference of their election and will continue until their successors are elected.

Section 5: Nominations to elective office shall be made by a Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President a minimum of thirty (30) calendar days prior to the election and shall consist of six (6) members (two (2) each from the Northern, Middle and Southern region of the state); and shall be representative of hobby, side-line and commercial beekeepers. No member of the Nominating Committee shall be a candidate for office.

Section 6: A majority vote is required for all elective offices. In the event no member receives a majority vote, then the candidates with the two highest vote counts will be the subject of a runoff vote, conducted at the same annual meeting.

Section 7: The Board of Directors may fill any vacancy that occurs in any elective office between annual meetings.

Article 3 – Officers

Section 1: The President shall: Preside at all meetings of this Association and of the Board of Directors; appoint committees to perform functions of the Association and see that the committees report on schedule. In the Absence of the President the Vice-President shall preside at meetings of the Association, and Board of Directors. In the Absence of both the President and Vice-President, the Immediate Past President shall preside.

Section 2: The Vice-President shall: Know the duties and responsibilities of the President, assist the President in performance of his or her duties, and be prepared to assume these duties when the President is absent. The Vice-President shall be Chairman of the program committee of the annual meeting and shall guide the members of the committee on local arrangements.

Section 3: The Secretary shall: Keep the minutes of all meetings of the Association and Board of Directors; be custodian of all records except those specifically assigned to others; give notice of all meetings; conduct all correspondence; file and preserve all papers belonging to the Association; and deliver to his or her successor in office all records belonging to the Association not kept by the Treasurer.

Section 4: The Treasurer shall: Keep a current list of members paying dues and in good standing; collect membership dues; pay all bills as authorized by the Board of Directors; keep an accurate account of all receipts and expenditures and deliver to his or her successor in office all financial records belonging to the Association.

Section 5: Removal of Officers. Officers may be removed for malfeasance, nonfeasance, long-term incapacity or dereliction of duty, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the Board of Directors entitled to vote. Before any such vote, notice must be given to the Board of Directors, and to the officer sought to be removed, at least thirty (30) calendar days before such action. The notice shall state the name and title of the officer sought to be removed, the grounds for removal, and specific details supporting the removal. The officer shall have ten (10) calendar days from the notice to submit, in writing to the Board of Directors, any evidence in opposition. The notice and any writing in opposition shall be maintained as confidential, other than among the officer, his or her representative, and the Board of Directors. If an officer is removed under this Section, he or she shall also be automatically removed from the Board of Directors.

Article 4 – Board of Directors

Section 1: A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of six (6) members from among the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President and the six (6) Directors.

Section 2: The Board of Directors shall administer the policies and the affairs of the Alabama Beekeepers Association, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 3: The Board of Directors shall elect, by majority vote, any delegate representative or nominee to any agency or organization representing

the Honey Bee Industry, as the delegate, representative or nominee representing the State of Alabama.

Section 4: Removal of Directors. Directors may be removed for malfeasance, nonfeasance, long-term incapacity or dereliction of duty, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors entitled to vote. Before any such vote, notice must be given to the Board of Directors, including the Director sought to be removed, at least thirty (30) calendar days before such action. The notice shall state the name of the Director sought to be removed, the grounds for removal, and specific details supporting the removal. The Director shall have ten (10) calendar days from the notice to submit, in writing to the Board of Directors, any evidence in opposition. The notice and any writing in opposition shall be maintained as confidential, other than among the Director, his or her representative, and the other members of the Board of Directors.

Article 5 – Committees

Section 1: When a President takes office, all positions on committees, shall be automatically vacated, leaving the incoming President free to make his or her own appointments.

Section 2: The following standing committees shall be appointed by the President: Local Arrangements, Membership, Audit, Resolutions, Standing Rules, Publicity, and Master Beekeepers.

Section 3: The President may appoint such other committees as will best serve the interest of the Association and its membership.

Article 6 – Membership Dues

Section 1: Regular members. The annual dues for membership in the Association shall be set each year by a majority vote of those present at the annual Fall Conference. Dues are payable in January. The fiscal year shall begin on January 1.

A. Local Associations may become affiliated with the Alabama Beekeepers Association by registering at least ten (10) members per year with the parent association. Each local association will

be called an Eligible Association. The presidents of each Eligible Association may automatically serve *ex officio* on the Board of Directors.

- B. Members of Local Associations joining the Alabama Beekeepers Association shall pay their state dues directly to the Treasurer of the Alabama Beekeepers Association.
- C. The Treasurer of the Alabama Beekeepers Association shall, at least thirty (30) calendar days before the annual state meeting, provide a roster of its members currently holding membership in the state Association to the local beekeeper associations.

Section 2: The Treasurer shall mail notices for payment of membership dues. Only two notices for payment of membership dues will be sent to the membership. The first notice will be sent with notice of the annual meeting. The second notice will be sent thirty (30) calendar days after the annual meeting. If dues are not paid by February 15th of the new membership year, the member's name will be removed from the active list and put on the inactive list.

Article 7 – Funds

Section 1: The funds of this Association may be used for any necessary purpose the Board of Directors may consider for the interest and advancement of the Association as a whole, and not for any individual member.

Article 8 – Audit

Section 1: There shall be an annual audit of the Association's finances. The President shall appoint an Audit Committee to make the audit, at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the annual meeting, and this committee shall make its report at the annual meeting. It shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer to submit all financial records to the Audit Committee at least ten (10) days prior to the annual meeting.

Article 9 – Amendments

Section 1: The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at any annual or special meeting called for that

purpose. Proposed amendment(s) must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Association at least thirty (30) calendar days before the annual or specially called meeting at which they are to be considered. The Secretary shall provide a copy of the proposed amendment(s) to each member at least fourteen (14) calendar days before that meeting. Voting shall be by ballot.

Section 2: These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at any annual or special meeting called for that purpose. Proposed amendment(s) must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Association at least thirty (30) calendar days before the annual or specially called meeting at which they are to be considered. The Secretary shall provide a copy of the proposed amendment(s) to each member at least fourteen (14) calendar days before that meeting. Voting shall be by ballot.

Article 10 – Parliamentary Procedure

Section 1: Roberts Rules of Order, currently revised edition at the time of any procedural question, shall be used as the parliamentary authority where it is not superseded by the Constitution and Bylaws of this Association.

Article 11 – Notices

Section 1: Notice shall be by email notification unless a member specifically requests, in writing, that notification be by regular mail. Notice shall be deemed given when transmitted electronically, or when placed in the United States mail, properly addressed and postage prepaid.