

Little Colorado River Horsemen's Association of Arizona

By-Laws

Revised January 6, 2024

Article 1: Name

The name of this organization shall be: Little Colorado River Horsemen's Association of Arizona, LCRHAA

LCRHAA was formed August 15, 1961 by Bud Johnson.

Article 2: Objectives

1. To maintain a non-profit organization
 - a. Purpose: Said organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations described under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
 - b. Dissolution: Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction in the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.
2. To promote education on: horsemanship (amateur sport), safety to the rider, preventing cruelty to animals and sportsmanship.
3. To encourage family participation, pride, self-confidence, education, and a positive attitude toward our equine friends and each other.

Article 3: Meetings and Gymkhanas

1. Meetings will be held on the same day as the gymkhana, unless there is a need to vote on a special event or issue.
2. Gymkhanas will be held on the 3rd Saturday of the month unless otherwise notified.
3. Members of the board will meet in executive session at least one time per year, preferably in November, and at any other time they deem necessary. A quorum of at least 3 officers is necessary to conduct business at all meetings.

4. All Gymkhana events shall have two members in the announcer's booth at ALL times. A third member or "Field Judge" may either be in the announcer's booth or in the arena.

Article 4: Membership Dues and Fees

1. Dues will be:
 - a. Individual \$15.00
 - b. Couple (2 people) \$25.00
 - c. Family (4 people same household) \$40.00 (additional family members \$5 each)
 - d. Voting privileges will be afforded to all members over the age of eight whose dues are current.
2. Entry fee will be.
 - a. Members - \$5.00 per event
 - b. Non-Members - \$5.00 per event
 - c. Non-member arena fee - \$5.00 per gymkhana
 - d. Jackpots - \$5.00 per entry
 - e. Arena Fees - \$5.00 for members, \$10.00 for non members
3. Membership dues **are not** refundable.
4. Refundable event fees must be claimed the day of the event, with any unclaimed fees being forever forfeited to the association.
5. Members will be responsible for volunteering for a minimum of one Gymkhana or a \$20.00 fee will be charged at time of membership.

Article 5: Elections

1. Elections shall be held yearly with notice of elections posted both electronically on the internet and at the gymkhana held before the elections.
2. All members over the age of eight in good standing shall be eligible to vote.
3. Fiscal year shall begin January 1st and end December 31st of each year.
4. Election shall be determined by a majority of members present at a meeting held in November of each year.

Article 6: Officers and Duties

1. All officers shall be at least 18 years of age.
2. Immediate family can hold office at the same time but only one can have access to the bank account and no husband and wife can hold office the same year.
3. All meetings shall be accountable and taken under advisement of General Robert's Rules of Order or Parliamentary procedure.

4. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined into one position and will be confirmed by a majority vote of the membership who are present during the year-end meeting.

President

- Shall preside over and keep order at all meetings
- Shall appoint all committees
- Shall sign all contracts and obligations
- Shall not vote except in the event of a tie

Vice-President

- Shall, in the absence of the President, preside over meetings
- Shall be the annual Awards Committee Chairman

Secretary

- Shall give notice of all meetings and gymkhanas to the members and take minutes of all meetings, to be presented to the Association members at the following meetings.
- Shall be responsible for keeping a record of times and accumulated points for all members.
- Shall keep a record of all current members
- Shall keep a list of all property owned by the association and maintain knowledge of listed property.
- Shall post all accumulated points up-to-date and any other notices at each gymkhana.

Treasurer

- Shall have charge of all money, bills and payment of such.
- Shall submit complete financial report at all regular meetings.
- Shall get approval from two other officers for each check written or debit purchase, stating the amount. Approval may be obtained by telephone or electronically and then recorded.
- Shall have record of event money at each gymkhana.

Board Members

- Attend meetings
- Give their input and the input of others
- Vote

Gymkhana Coordinator (Appointed Position)

- Shall maintain order at the gymkhana events.
- Shall assist board members in making sure safety standards of the Association are followed at the gymkhanas.
- Shall have the authority to issue disciplinary action at any of our Association functions.
- Shall determine in what order the events are to be run at the gymkhana events.

- Shall have 2 “Field Judges” at Gymkhana events. One must be on the ground and the other may be on the ground or in the announcer’s booth.

Article 7: Point System and Annual Awards

1. Age groups are as followed:
 - a. Lead-line
 - b. 2-6
 - c. 7-10
 - d. 11-14
 - e. 15-25
 - f. 26-49
 - g. 50-69
 - h. 70 & Over
2. Points will be awarded for each event to members as follows:
 - a. First Place 10 points
 - b. Second Place 9 points
 - c. Third Place 8 points
 - d. Fourth Place 7 points
 - e. Fifth Place 6 points
 - f. Sixth Place 5 points
 - g. Seventh Place 4 points
 - h. Eighth Place 3 points
 - i. Ninth Place 2 points
 - j. All riders after ninth place will receive 1 point for participation.
 - k. No-Times will receive 1 point for participation.
3. Points will be accumulated for year-end awards by paid members only.
4. Non-members will not be eligible for accumulative year-end award points but they will be eligible for daily high point awards and ribbons.
5. Once points are tallied for a gymkhana, the points schedule will be final.
6. In the event of a tie in overall points for the year, the tied contestants shall each receive their awarded place.
7. Other annual awards will be given, if applicable, for the following:
 - a. Most Improved
 - b. Hard Ship
 - c. All Around
8. To be eligible for any year-end awards, you must have ridden in at least four (4) gymkhanas as a paid member for the year.
9. A rider can only receive one year-end awards within your age group.

10. Riders who are entering more than one horse in a gymkhana must specify at sign ups which horse will be their point horse for that day. (example - A rider wants to enter both their bay horse and their sorrel for all patterns. If the rider chooses their bay horse as point horse only the bay horse will earn year end points. The sorrel horse can earn points for that gymkhana only)
Riders who have entered only one time may switch horses for patterns if needed. (example - A rider rides their bay horse for barrels and another pattern, but rides their sorrel horse for poles)

Article 8: Safety Rules (apply to the Arena and Practice Arena)

1. Officers and Field Judges will have the authority to remove, from the premise, any violators of the safety rules.
2. NO STUDS are allowed at any association event.
3. Riders must wear hard-soled western boots or riding shoes specifically designed and manufactured for the purpose of riding.
4. NO alcoholic beverages will be allowed on the premises before, during or after the gymkhana event. No intoxicated riders or spectators will be allowed at any association event.
5. NO horse, other than the contestant's horse, will be allowed in the arena during the gymkhana events.
6. NO dogs, under any circumstances, will be allowed in the arena at the gymkhana events.
7. NO horses allowed between the grand-stands and the arena, or the grand-stands and the concession stand.
8. All contestants will enter and exit the arena using the correct gate. All gates will be closed during the ride and horses must enter and exit at a walk.
9. Contestants may run in the gate once past the safety panel.
10. There will be a "Field Judge" at the gate; with the second either in the arena or in the announcer's booth to monitor safety.
11. All horses must be at a walk or trot except in the arena.
12. NO HORSEPLAY at an event
13. Riders will be given one warning from an Officer or Field Judge, violation of safety rules will result in a disqualification from the remaining events and forfeiture of all paid entry fees for the day.

Article 9: General Rules

1. Contestant's age group will be determined by their age on January 1st of the current year. Whatever age group a contestant starts the year in will be the same age group that contestant will finish the year in.
2. All entries must be signed by contestant, or in the case of a minor, by the parent or legal guardian. There must be a parent or legal guardian on the grounds of the gymkhana when a minor is riding.
3. When lodging a complaint contestant/member must do so on the same day of the gymkhana, so we can try to resolve the issue. If it can't be solved right there, then further action will be taken.
4. Events for the year will be determined by the board at their annual executive board meeting in November each year.
5. Gymkhana coordinator's decision is final. Should any questions or disputes arise, not provided for in the rules, his decisions shall stand for the duration of the gymkhana.
6. In the event of a tie, for a place in any given event, riders will re-run that event. All re-runs must be on the same horse as the original ride. Loser will take the next place.
7. In the event of a timer failure, a stop watch is used to give times.
8. The contestant's horse must NOT be led by the bit in the Lead-Line age group, when being lead. If you start with a leader, then you must finish with a leader or you will be disqualified.
9. Lead-Line contestants that start the year in Lead-Line group will stay in this age group for the season. If they chose to not be lead during the season that option will be available. However, this choice will have them competing against other contestants that are either lead or not.
10. In the event of equipment (tack) failure during a run, a re-ride will be allowed if the contestant desires it.
11. In the Lead-Line and 2-6 age group, all jumps will be laid on the ground.
12. All meetings will be drug, alcohol and smoke free.

Article 10: Penalties and Disqualification Rules

1. A contestant has a three minute limit to enter the arena for an event. No refunds or re-rides for violation of this rule.
2. A five second penalty will be added to time for each obstacle knocked down, unless otherwise stated.
3. A broken pattern is a disqualification.
4. If the contestant crossed the starting line and stops the timer, that contestant will receive a no time.

5. Spurring, striking or beating the horse in an inhumane manner will not be tolerated and will result in disqualification.
6. Striking the horse with game equipment in any manner is a disqualification.
7. Failure to exit the arena, after disqualification by a Field Judge, will bar the rider from further participation in events and forfeiture of all paid entry fees for the day.
8. Any arguing in a disrespectful manner with other contestants, members, officers or field judges will result in an immediate disqualification from any further participation in events and forfeiture of all paid entry fees for the day.