

Antelope Valley Desert Riders

Constitution and By-Laws

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This Constitution and By-Laws to be executed for the Antelope Valley Desert Riders by the Board of Directors of said organization. A two-thirds (2/3) vote by current board members is required for adoption of this Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE I – Organization Name

This organization shall be known as **Antelope Valley Desert Riders**. The abbreviation **AVDR** shall also be used within this and other documents to refer to this organization.

ARTICLE II – Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be for the mutual enjoyment of the sport of horsemanship and other activities as decided by the membership. All income from membership dues, fees, arena rental, and other sources shall be expended for the promotion and welfare of the organization. No individual member is empowered to obligate the organization to appear at any activity until first approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III – Membership

Section 1 – Types of Membership

There shall be three classes of membership; Family, Individual, and Lifetime. Family and Individual memberships may be purchased as an Annual membership. Individual memberships may also be purchased on a monthly basis. All Annual memberships are valid for a single season, currently starting on September 1st and ending on August 31st. The cost of each type of membership shall be determined by majority vote by members of the board. Annual memberships shall not be prorated if purchased mid-season. No person shall be allowed to ride in any AVDR event, including regular season shows, play days, or any other event without first becoming a member of AVDR.

Section 2 – Family Memberships

To be eligible for an AVDR Family Membership, members must be directly related to each other as a family unit as Mother, Father and minor children. Each family membership shall be limited to two adults over the age of 18 and their dependent children. All members of the family must reside at the same physical residence.

Section 3 – Individual Memberships

An individual membership shall be available for those that do not qualify for, or desire a family membership, and shall be available at a lower cost than a Family membership. If an individual wishes to purchase a membership for less than the full season, then the individual may purchase a monthly membership for a nominal cost. Monthly memberships do not entitle the member to attend board meetings or have input into how the club is organized or shows are executed.

Section 4 – Lifetime Memberships

A lifetime membership may be granted to individuals who have gone above and beyond any normal volunteer work to keep the club functional. To be granted a lifetime membership, the member must be in current good standing and be nominated and seconded by members of the Board of Directors. A unanimous vote of all active board members must be achieved at a regular board meeting to grant Lifetime Membership.

Section 5 – Membership Privileges

All Annual and Lifetime members over the age of 18 may attend and give input at board meetings. Although Annual and Lifetime members are encouraged to attend board meetings and express opinions, only current members of the Board of Directors have voting rights to affect club business, rules changes, or any other decisions made at a board meeting by the Board of Directors.

All Members in good standing (Family, Individual, Lifetime) whether Annual or Monthly are permitted to participate in all non-CGA (California Gymkhana Association) club events. CGA membership is required to participate in CGA sanctioned events, in addition to a current Antelope Valley Desert Riders membership.

Section 6 – Suspension of Membership

Any member who becomes delinquent in his or her dues shall thereupon be automatically suspended from participating in any event hosted by Antelope Valley Desert Riders. Membership dues may be made current the same day as an event by the member.

ARTICLE IV – Ruling Body - Board of Directors

Section 1 – General

The affairs of the organization shall be administered by a Board of Directors consisting of seven members in good standing. Of these seven board members, four shall be named officers. These officers shall be President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. No two members of a family (as defined by eligibility for family membership, regardless of whether a family membership is purchased) may serve on the Board of Directors at one time.

Section 2 – Appointment of Board Members and Officers

When the number of board members falls below the prescribed number of seven, new potential board members shall be nominated and voted on by the current remaining board members. Likewise, Officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary) shall be appointed by the current Board of Directors when an opening arises.

Section 3 – Terms of Office

There is no set term of office for board members and officers. Once appointed as a board member or officer, the member remains in that position until they resign or are no longer capable of performing their club duties and responsibilities.

Section 4 – Compensation

Membership on the AVDR Board of Directors is a volunteer position and no direct compensation is provided. However, once an individual has been appointed as a board member, their AVDR membership fee (individual or family) will be waived by the organization as long as the individual remains a board member.

Section 4 – Removal from the Board or Office

A board member who fails to attend regular board meetings or does not perform the duties required by the position shall be removed by the remaining board with a two-thirds (2/3) vote. Any board member missing more than 3 consecutive board meetings or more than 6 meetings throughout the season shall become subject for removal from the board.

Section 5 – Officer Duties

It shall be the duty of the President to preside over all meetings and to carry out the orders of the Board of Directors in administering the affairs of the organization. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to assist the President in administering the affairs of the organization and to preside during the President's absence. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep records of expenses, receive and deposit in a bank all funds received from the organization and to render a report of receipts and expenditures at each meeting of the organization. The treasurer is also responsible for paying all debts incurred by the organization from organizational funds. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep minutes of all meetings, compile and post standings, send out notices of club events to the membership, and to send show information to the club's sanctioning body, where required.

ARTICLE V – Meetings

Section 1

Regular Board of Director meetings shall be held at the organization's headquarters at 7:00 PM on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Special meetings may be called by the order of the Board of Directors, by email, text message, or other means, if a situation arises that a decision must be made prior to the next regular scheduled board meeting. Notice of special meetings need not be made to the general membership, but all members of the current board must be notified 3 days prior to such a meeting.

Section 2– Order of Business

The order of business of Board Meetings shall be:

1. Calling the Meeting to Order
2. Noting officers and board members in attendance
3. Noting all other members in attendance
4. Discussing previous business

5. Treasurer Report
6. President's Report
7. General discussion of new club business
8. Meeting adjournment

Section 3 – Quorum

Five board members shall constitute a quorum for voting purposes.

ARTICLE VI – Rules

Antelope Valley Riders shall operate under a set of well publicized rules that are available to all members. The rules shall be created and voted on by the Board of Directors and maintained in a separate document titled "Antelope Valley Desert Riders Rules and Information".

ARTICLE VII – Amendments

These by-laws may be amended in the following manner:

The amendment shall be presented in writing to the Board of Directors and shall be voted upon at the next regular meeting. A two-third (2/3) vote of those present is necessary to adopt any changes.