

CONSTITUTION OF  
THE THREE RIVERS BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

ARTICLE I  
NAME

- Section 1. The name of this organization is Three Rivers Back Country Horsemen, hereinafter referred to as 3RBCH. The executive body of 3RBCH is the Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as BD.

ARTICLE II  
OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSE

- Section 1. To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's backcountry and wilderness.
- Section 2. To assist the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resources.
- Section 3. To educate people to wisely use horses in the back country so as to sustain the use of animals and the resource in a manner commensurate with our heritage, and to encourage and solicit active participation by members and general public in such activity.
- Section 4. To foster and encourage the formation of additional BCH affiliated users.
- Section 5. To seek out opportunities to enhance existing areas of recreation for stock users.

ARTICLE III  
MEMBERSHIP IN 3RBCH

- Section 1. Membership shall be composed of any individual, family or business interested in promoting the purposes as stated in Article II, who has applied for membership status and paid the appropriate membership dues.
- Section 2. The membership year commences January 1 and expires December 31.
- Section 3. The membership dues are determined by the members at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE IV  
VOTING

- Section 1. Each individual member in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote on each matter voted upon during a meeting.
- Section 2. Family members shall be entitled to a total of two (2) votes for that family on

each matter voted upon during a meeting, with a proxy vote for a spouse acceptable without written permission.

- Section 3. Each business member in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote on each matter voted upon during a meeting.
- Section 4. A simple majority of members in good standing, voting when the organization is in session, shall be required to conduct business requiring group action, providing a quorum is present, except for instances provided herein.
- Section 5. Members in good standing representing eight (8) votes shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting of this organization. Fifty percent of the board members shall constitute a quorum for Board of Directors meetings.

## ARTICLE V MEETINGS

- Section 1. Regular meetings shall be established and held at a time and place decided by the membership.
- Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson, or upon written request signed by any three (3) directors, or upon written request signed by any ten (10) voting members in good standing.
- Section 3. Board meetings shall be held as agreed to by a majority of the Directors or as called by the chairperson. All members shall be welcome at Board meetings. However, only members of the Board of Directors shall vote on matters brought before the Board.
- Section 4. The annual Meeting of the 3RBCH shall be held in January of each year, with other meetings at such times as established by the membership.
- Section 5. Notice of all meetings shall be given to all members at least one week before the meeting, except for the Annual Meeting which requires at least two weeks notice.

## ARTICLE VI POWERS

- Section 1. The supreme authority of the 3RBCH shall be its assembled voting members. The BD shall execute this authority when the voting members are not assembled, but shall follow the direction given them by the members and shall be responsible to them.
- Section 2. Powers of the Annual Meeting - The Annual Meeting provided for in Article V hereof shall have power to enact, repeal or amend the constitution or bylaws of

3RBCH. The Annual Meeting may by resolution take any action not inconsistent with law or 3RBCH constitution and bylaws.

- Section 3. Powers of the Board of Directors - The Board of Directors shall have power to take any action not inconsistent with state or federal law or 3RBCH constitution and bylaws, or any duly enacted resolution of the Annual Meeting.

## ARTICLE VII OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- Section 1. Officers of this organization shall be a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, all with a one (1) year term of office, with elections conducted at the Annual Meeting.
- Section 2. There shall be five (5) Directors who shall serve a two (2) year term of office, providing that the immediate past chairperson shall also serve as a Director at such times as there is an immediate past Chairperson.
- Section 3. The officers and Directors shall be known as the Board of Directors.
- Section 4. Any vacancy or vacancies in any office or of a Director, shall be filled by an election by the Board of Directors for the balance of such term, except Chairperson, which will automatically be filled by the Vice-Chairperson.
- Section 5. All Officers and Directors must be members in good standing.

## ARTICLE VIII DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Chairperson to preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors and to exercise general executive control over the affairs of said organization and to call special meetings of the organization and its Board of Directors, and to perform all other duties pertaining to such office. (S)He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. (S)He may also co-sign checks for disbursement of funds. The Chairperson may appoint committees for specific purposes and assign particular areas of responsibility to the Directors.
- Section 2. The Vice-Chairperson shall assist the Chairperson when called upon to do so and in his or her absence shall be vested with all the powers and duties of the Chairperson. (S)He may also co-sign checks for disbursement of funds.
- Section 3. The Secretary shall record and keep the minutes of all regular, special and Board meetings; shall register the names of members; issue notices and perform such other duties as pertain to such office.

- Section 4. The Treasurer shall collect dues, keep and disburse all funds of the organization and shall keep a written account of same which shall be open for inspection by any member in good standing, and shall furnish a written report of the state of the finances monthly, and shall be one of the three check signers of record, any two of which may validate a check. All funds shall be kept in a bank account.
- Section 5. Following the Annual Meeting the BD shall designate two board members to represent 3RBCH on the State Board of Directors of the Back Country Horsemen of Montana for staggered two year terms and an alternate to serve in the absence of either Director for a one year term.
- Section 6. Prior to the annual convention of the Back Country Horsemen of Montana, the BD shall designate no more than eight (8) of the 3RBCH members as official delegates to the convention.

#### ARTICLE IX ELECTIONS

- Section 1. A Nominating Committee consisting of the Chairperson, immediate Past Chairperson and two other members in good standing to be appointed by the Chairperson, will prepare a slate of candidates for the offices of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and the expiring or vacant positions of Director. The Committee will announce its list of candidates in the notice of the Annual Meeting. Nominations from the floor are also acceptable at the Annual Meeting.
- Section 2. All officers and Directors shall be elected by a majority vote at the Annual Meeting and will take office at that time.
- Section 3. The term of office for the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer shall be one year. Directors shall be elected to serve staggered two year terms.
- Section 4. No Officer or Director shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same position.

#### ARTICLE X FINANCES

- Section 1. All expenditures from the treasury of the 3RBCH shall be approved by the BD.
- Section 2. All checks issued on the 3RBCH bank account shall bear two authorized signatures.
- Section 3. Should, for any reason, the 3RBCH cease to exist as a functioning organization, all remaining funds shall be donated to the State organization.

#### ARTICLE XI

## REMOVAL OF OFFICERS OR DIRECTORS

- Section 1. Officers and Directors of the 3RBCH may be removed by a 2/3 majority vote of the voting members when a quorum is present and when notice of this proposed action has been sent to all members.

## ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. This constitution and bylaws may be amended at the Annual Meeting or at any regular meeting or special meeting of the organization by a 2/3 majority vote providing that notice of such proposed amendment of amendments shall be given to the organization at the regular meeting preceding such meeting or by mail at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

Retyped: February 5, 2007