

## **Proposed Changes to ADA By-laws**

Entire document:

- Change AHSA to USEF
- Change January 1<sup>st</sup> to "the first of the membership year"
- Change January 1 – December 31 to the "membership year"
- Remove, "Constitution".
- Replace "Rules" with "Policies and Procedures"

### **Article II – Membership**

Section 2: Change membership year to "shall be the same membership year as to coincide with the United States Dressage Federation (USDF) and United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), currently December 1 – November 30." (this would begin January 1, 2012 so 2012 year would run January 1 – November 30, 2012). We should look at prorating dues for 2013 year for the lost month – too late this year.

Section 3:

(b) "Shall have the right to vote by personal attendance or proxy at membership meetings or by ballot published in the newsletter..." replace period and add: ", or by email".

(e) "...other such mailed..." insert "or emailed"

Section 4: Classes of Membership. Replace with: "Classes of Membership are described in the Association's Policies and Procedures."

### **Article III – Meetings and Other Official Functions**

Section 2: Board of Director Meetings

*Paragraph 1:* Replace, "The number of Board members present shall constitute a quorum" to, "There must be at least 4 voting Board members present to constitute a quorum."

*Paragraph 2:* Replace, "within two weeks after elections, called by the outgoing President." to "at the first board meeting of the new membership year."

*Paragraph 4:* Replace "unanimous action" with "action from a minimum of 6 of the remaining voting officers."

### **Article IV – Voting**

Section 1: Membership Voting

Add: "Ballots may be sent via regular mail or email."

#### Section 2: Board of Director Voting

Replace, "The members present at any Regular or Special Board meeting shall constitute a quorum," to "There must be 4 voting board members present to constitute a quorum,"

### **Article V – Directors**

#### Section 1:

Replace "The business and property..." with "The business, property and Policies and Procedures..."

#### Section 3: Duties

Replace "The business and property..." with "The business, property and Policies and Procedures..."

*Paragraph 4:* Removal of director – from unanimous to minimum of 6 board directors, including the President

### **Article VI – Elective Officers and Duties**

#### Section 1: Elections

*Paragraph 2* – change "in Oct-November" to "at least 1 month prior to end of membership year."

#### Section 2: Terms

Change , "two (2) years, January 1 –December 31," to "two (2) membership years"  
ADD: "The Past President term will be one (1) membership year."

#### Section 4: Nominations

Replace, "and shall be mailed to the Association Secretary postmarked within two weeks after published nomination closing.." with " and shall be sent to the Association Secretary postmarked on or before the published nomination closing..".  
Replace "mail" with "regular mail or e-mail".

#### Section 5: Duties:

Replace with, "Duties of the Officers shall be described in the Policies and Procedures."

### **Article VII – Appointed Officers and Duties**

### Section1:

Replace entire with: "Appointed Officers shall be specified in the Policies and Procedures."

### Section2: Duties:

Replace with, "Duties of the Appointed Officers shall be described in the Policies and Procedures."

### **Article VIII: Amendments**

*Paragraph 3* – replace "January 1<sup>st</sup>" with "the first of the Membership year"

### **Article IX – Dissolution**

Replace "United States Dressage Federation" to "United States Dressage Foundation". We believe the Foundation would better spend the money on educational programs rather than administration.

### **What to Include in Policies and Procedures:**

1. Appointed Officers: These officers shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board and shall have voting rights as noted:

Voting officers:

- Education
- Communications (replaces Newsletter)
- Junior/Young Rider

Non-voting officers:

- Membership
- Sponsorships
- Awards
- Recognized Show
- Schooling Show

2. Job Descriptions of each officer

3. Publication guidelines of Newsletter, web, constant contact, etc...

4. Membership dues/types of memberships

5. Nomination and Election process

6. Awards program and volunteer requirements
7. Scholarship
8. Standing education programs, e.g., cash back
9. Schooling Show Championship rules
10. List of standing committees
11. Competitions and our role in organizing and running them
12. Code of conduct and Email etiquette