



# West Desert Back Country Horsemen

## *CLUB PURPOSE AND BY-LAWS*

28 October, 2014 Edition

# West Desert Back Country Horsemen

## Chapter By-Laws

### Article 1

#### Chapter Purpose

The purpose of West Desert Back Country Horsemen shall be to (A) Perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses, mules and recreational stock in Tooele County and adjoining areas; (B) Assist various government agencies in their maintenance and management of our back country and public land resources; (C) Educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise and sustaining use of back country resources by horsemen and the general public; (D) Work to insure public lands remain open to recreational stock use; (E) Foster and encourage the formation of new local units and support the state and national BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN organizations.

WEST DESERT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN will adhere to all organizational requirements established by BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF AMERICA and BACK COUNTRY HORSEMENT OF UTAH.

### Article 2

#### Chapter Office Location

The Principal office of the WEST DESERT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN (hereinafter referred to as "WDBCH") for the transaction of its business is located at 375 North 600 West, Grantsville, Utah 84029

WDBCH officers are hereby granted full power to change

### Article 8

#### Responsibility for Injury

Neither WEST DESERT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN, BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF UTAH or BACK COUNTRY HORSEMENT OF AMERICA shall be held liable or responsible for any accidents or injury to any person or persons while engaged in any activities of the organization.

### Article 9

#### Assets

The property of the Unit is dedicated to the specific purposes as set forth in these By-Laws and no part of the net income or assets of this Unit shall ever become an advantage to the Unit Officers, individual members, or any private persons. In no way shall the WEST DESERT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN be used for the private gain or benefit of any party. Upon dissolution or termination of the Unit, its assets remaining after payment of, or provision for payment of, all debts and liabilities of the Unit, shall be distributed to either the BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF UTAH, or divided equally among the active local Units within the State of Utah

## **Article 7**

### **Projects**

Section 1 Unit Projects. A 'Unit Project' shall be defined as any service project submitted to the Unit Officers for consideration and approved by a vote of the Unit Officers. Projects may be submitted to the Unit Officers by any member in good standing. No project will be considered a Unit project unless this procedure is followed:

A – The project must support the premise of these By-Laws and the WDBCH purpose. The Unit officers must shall be responsible for fairly evaluating each project, and prioritizing it to other projects submitted for consideration.

B – Required information that must accompany any suggested Unit Project:

- a – Detailed description of the project.
- b – Estimated date when the project should begin and end.
- c – Who is making the request, (individual, group or agency).
- d – Identify what if anything will need to be packed on animals and distances to be packed.
- e – The type of labor that will be required, (carpenter, welder, etc.).
- f – Tools or equipment requirements.
- g – Other organizations that will be involved in the project, contact persons and phone numbers.

Section 2. Membership Participation. Participation in Unit projects is strongly encouraged and necessary if we are to be successful.

the principal office of WDBCH, from one location to another within the boundaries of Tooele County. Any such changes shall be noted by the Secretary in these By-Laws, but shall not be considered an amendment of these By-Laws.

## **Article 3**

### **Member Information**

Section 1. Categories of Members. There shall be six categories of members designated as (A) Individual (B) Family (C) Associate (D) Friend (E) Patron (F) Benefactor. As follows:

(A) Individual Membership: One (1) person, over the age of eighteen (18) years of age. An individual membership in good standing is entitled to one (1) vote.

(B) Family Membership: Individuals within one (1) immediate family unit (spouses/partners, parents and dependent children). Each family membership in good standing is entitled to two (2) votes.

(C) Associate Membership: An individual or non-profit organization, as a group, interested in supporting the purpose of the organization as stated in the purpose statement. Associate memberships shall not be considered voting members.

(D) Friend (E) Patron (F) Benefactor, Memberships: These memberships differ from the Associate membership in that each of these memberships, in good standing, is entitled to two (2) votes.

## **Article 4**

### **Dues**

Section 1. Dues Structure All membership dues shall be paid to the local unit. The yearly membership dues for each membership are as follows:

Individual Membership	\$ 35.00
Family Membership	\$ 45.00
Associate Membership	\$ 25.00 (minimum)
Friend Membership	\$ 60.00
Patron Membership	\$100.00 - \$299.00
Benefactor Membership	\$300.00 or more

Section 2. Determination of Dues Amount Membership dues shall be set from time to time by the Unit membership.

Section 3. Payment of Dues The yearly dues are payable on January 1 of each year. WDBCH fiscal year ends on December 31. Payment of dues within the last quarter of any year will entitle the members full membership privileges until December 31 of the next succeeding year.

Section 4. Delinquent Dues Renewal members dues not paid by January 31 of each year are delinquent and those persons or entities who are delinquent as of that time will be omitted from membership. Delinquent members shall automatically cease being entitled to membership benefits of any kind in West Desert Back Country Horsemen, and it's associated organizations.

Section 5. Dues Notice All dues notices are to be sent out by the Unit in a timely fashion to allow for receipt of payment by January 31.

Section 6. Distribution of Dues All dues paid to the Unit will be distributed as follows:

## **Article 6**

### **Meetings**

Section 1. Monthly Meetings. Regular monthly meetings will be scheduled and held at a time agreed upon by the Unit Officers and attending regular members. These meetings will be used to conduct the regular monthly business of the Unit by the Officers of the Unit. An open forum will be provided to address any issues of concern from the general membership.

Section 2. Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called by the President, upon written or verbal request.

Section 3. Notice of Meetings Notice shall be given of the monthly meetings.

Section 4. Conduct of Meetings. The President of the Unit shall preside at all meetings of the Unit. In the President's absence, the Vice-President shall preside. Officers of the Unit may participate in a meeting through any communication device so long as all members can hear one another.

Section 5. Adjournment. A majority of the Officers of the Unit present may adjourn any meeting to another time or place.

Section 6. Voting. When the membership has been duly notified, a simple majority of the members in good standing present at a meeting shall be sufficient to conduct business, providing a quorum is present.

Section 7. Quorum. Majority of the members present, in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular meeting of WDBCH.

Any subsequent business will be conducted with an open forum. All statements, questions and concerns of the general membership shall be heard and documented in the minutes of the meeting.

Section 11. Action Without Meeting. The Unit officers may take any action required or permitted without a meeting, if the majority of Officers of the Unit, individually or collectively, consent verbally or in writing to such action.

Section 12. Signatories on Check. The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall have authority to sign checks of the Unit; however, at least two (2) signatures are required to validate any check. No two (2) signatures shall be from the same family membership.

Section 13. Compensation of Officers. All Officers and other positions deemed necessary by the Officers of the Unit, shall serve without compensation except that they may, from time to time, be allowed and paid their actual and necessary expenses incurred in attending any meetings of the Unit and other reimbursements for expenses that they may have in connection with carrying out the duties of their office, with approval of the majority of the membership present at a monthly meeting and within 45 days of the expense.

Section 14. Resignation of Officers. Any Officer may resign at any time upon written notice to the Unit Officers.

Section 15. Removal of Officers. Officers may be removed with or without cause at any meeting of the Unit Officers by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Officers present and ratified by the members.

Section 16. Vacancies. Vacancy of the office of the President shall automatically be filled by the Vice-President, other office vacancy can be filled by the Unit Officers and ratified by the membership.

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>BCHA</u>	<u>BCHU</u>	<u>WDBCH</u>
Individuals	\$ 11.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00
Family	\$ 14.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 14.00
Associate	\$ 11.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 7.00
Friend	\$ 14.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 24.00
Patron	\$ 14.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 274.00

(All portions of dues payable to the National Organizations will be sent to the State organization for dispersal.)

## **Article 5**

### **Unit Officers**

Section 1. Titles. The officers of WDBCH shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and such other officers as shall be determined by the officers of WDBCH as necessary to conduct normal business. The President is the chief executive officer of the unit.

Section 2. Election of Officers. The officers of the Unit shall be chosen annually, at the November membership meeting, by the majority vote of the membership present. New officers shall take office on January 1.

Section 3. Qualification of Officers. All officers must be voting members in good standing as defined in these by-laws.

Section 4. Term of Office. The term of office for officers shall be for one (1) year. No officer shall hold the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms.

Section 5. President. The President shall be the chief executive office of the Unit and shall supervise, direct and control the business and affairs of the Unit. This includes presiding over all meetings of the Unit except as provided by these By-Laws. Calling special meetings of the Unit or it's

Officers, and performing all duties incident to the office and such other duties as may be required by law. The President shall be the ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 6. Vice President. In the absence of the President, or in the event of his or her inability or refusal to act, the Vice-President shall perform all of the duties of the President and when so acting, shall have all of the powers of, and be subject to the same restrictions as the President. The Vice-President shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Officers of the Unit.

Section 7. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep or cause to be kept a book of minutes of all meetings of the Officers of the Unit, all general membership meetings and all special membership meetings, register the names of the members, issue notices; and be responsible for generation and distributing a monthly newsletter to all members in good standing. The Secretary shall perform such other and further duties as prescribed by the Officers of the Unit. The Secretary shall keep the Unit's membership records.

Section 8. Treasurer. The Treasurer of the Unit shall collect dues; keep and maintain in written form, adequate and correct books and records of the business transactions and property of the Unit, including accounts of the assets, liabilities, receipts, disbursements, gains and losses. The books and records shall be open to inspection by any member in good standing. The Treasurer shall deposit all moneys and other valuables, in the name and to the credit of Unit. The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the Unit as designated by the Officers of the Unit and shall render to the Officers a Treasurer's report at each regular meeting of the Officers of the Unit and the annual general membership meeting. The Treasurer shall perform other and further duties as may be required by law or as may be prescribed by the Officers of the Unit or these By-Laws. Such duties shall

also include making monthly rebates to the State Organization of moneys due generated by the collection of dues.

Section 9. Supporting Offices. The following positions may be appointed by the Unit Officers on an as needed basis:

Unit State Director. The Unit State Director or Directors shall be appointed by the Unit officers on a yearly basis. This position is charged with the responsibility of attending all required State Board meetings and acting on behalf of the Unit at these meetings. The appointed Director must contact the State Organization's Secretary on or before the December 31 preceding the year for which he or she is appointed with their name, address and telephone number. Failure of the Unit State Director to attend three (3) consecutive regularly scheduled State Board meetings, without notification and reasonable cause, shall cause the Unit to be deemed inactive and lose all affiliation benefits with the State Organization. The Unit State Director is also responsible for attending all meetings called by the Officers of the Unit and general membership meetings. The appointed individual must be a voting member in good standing of the Unit.

District Representatives. The District Representatives will act as liaisons with respect to all communications and activities with the government agencies in their designated areas. The District Representatives will also be responsible for collecting a list of proposed projects from these agencies for review as well as monitoring the selected projects through fruition.

Section 10. Unit Office Meetings. The business of the Unit will be performed by the Unit Officers at the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Unit. All members in good standing are invited to attend, but the Unit business will be conducted first and voted on by the Unit Officers.