

Franklin County Equestrian Club Bylaws

Article I – Name

The name of the club shall be Franklin County Equestrian Club (FCEC).

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of Franklin County Equestrian Club shall be to promote equestrian activities, which will provide ongoing educational and competitive opportunities for our members by organization and execution of trail rides, fun shows and other related equestrian activities.

Article III – Founders

The founders of Franklin County Equestrian Club are Timothy and Patricia Wray.

Article IV – Membership

Section I - Eligibility:

- A: Membership in Franklin County Equestrian Club is open to any persons without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, sex, age or handicap. All horse breeds and disciplines are welcome.
- B. Membership shall consist of individuals and families.
 - Anyone under eighteen (18) years of age must have written parental/guardian consent as well as parent and/or guardian present assuming responsibility of the minor while participating in any club activity.
- C. Open membership will be available for the first calendar year of the club.
- D. All prospective member(s) shall attend a minimal of two (2) club meetings and/or activities as a guest prior to membership.
 - Prospective members must complete and submit Application of Membership and Equine Release, Waiver and Indemnification to the Club Secretary.
 - Prospective members must have a member in good standings as their sponsor.
 - Pay applicable membership dues.
 - Must abide by FCEC Club Bylaws and Rules and Regulations at all club events.
- E. Proceedings may be brought against any member for failure to comply with Franklin County Equestrian Club (FCEC) Bylaws and Rules and Regulations or bringing unwanted negative publicity to bear on the club.
 - Upon charges being presented to FCEC leadership, the offending member(s) shall be notified by registered letter of the charges brought against them and shall be given ten (10) days in which to answer said charges. Said charges are to be heard in a regular or special meeting of the club and a majority vote required causing appropriate disciplinary action needed.

Article V - Meetings

- A: Club meetings will be held the third Monday of each month at 6:30 P.M with location to be determined quarterly.
- B. For 'Special Meetings' an email, telephone call and/or letter will be sent to the membership at least ten (10) days prior. The business at the special meeting shall be confined to the purpose stated only.
- C. All members in good standings shall be eligible to have one (1) vote.
- D. A quorum will be at least ten (10) members and/or fifty (50) percent of the membership, whichever is the smaller equation.
- E. All motions shall be decided by majority vote of members present.
- F. The agenda at any regular meeting shall be:
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Reading/Approval of Regular or Special Meeting Minutes
 - c. Treasurer Report
 - d. Unfinished Business
 - e. New Business
 - f. Program (Optional)
 - g. Announcements
 - h. Adjournment
- G. Roberts Rules of Order will be the format of all meetings.

Article VI - Dues

- A: Amount of dues will be determined by majority vote of the membership. Dues amount are as follows:
 - Family (immediate family members to include child(ren) eighteen (18) years old or younger that are a full time student who are within your household) consists of two (2) horse/rider combinations - \$25.00.
 - Single (eighteen (18) years old or older consists of one (1) horse/rider combination - \$15.00.
 - Junior (under the age of eighteen (18) years old) consists of one (1) horse/rider combination \$10.00.
 - Additional horse/rider combinations may be obtained for \$10.00 per combination.
- B. Renewal of membership dues shall be post marked no later than January 31st unless otherwise communicated.
- C. Membership shall run from January to December.
- D. Dues are non-refundable.
- E. A non-sufficient fee of \$35.00 will be apply for all returned checks.

Article VII – Safety of Members

- A. Safety is a priority of the Franklin County Equestrian Club (FCEC).
- B. Helmets are encouraged for all participants and will be required for participants under the age of eighteen (18) years old while mounted.
- C. Possession and use of illegal substances and public intoxication are prohibited. No alcohol allowed at shows and closed events.
- D. NO smoking permitted during club meetings or activities that are in a closed environment. Smoking maybe permitted while on a trail ride(s) however, will be at the discretion of the trail boss and/or host. Should smoking be permitted the smoker must field strip their cigarettes.
- E. The trail boss is responsible for enforcing proper trail etiquette.
- F. Proof of current negative Coggins required at all trail rides, shows, etc.
- G. No member shall engage in, or permit other to engage in on their behalf, training or management practices deemed harmful to horses.
- H. Stallions may not be left unattended at any time nor in control (show/riding) of a minor (under eighteen (18) years of age).
- I. Horses must be properly maintained (no ground tying).
- J. Members are responsible and accountable for the behavior of their children and/or guest(s) at all times.
- K. No dogs allowed.
- L. No firearms allowed.

Article VIII - Unsportsmanship like Conduct

- A. Unsportsmanship like conduct or any other form of misconduct that is irresponsible, illegal, indecent, profane, intimidating, threatening, or abusive is prohibited. This applies to FCEC Members, non-members, exhibitors, trainers, owners, spectators and all other persons on show grounds of an FCEC approved event; and FCEC members on the show grounds of an event held in conjunction with an FCEC approved event.
- B. Show management may immediately expel individuals exhibiting unsportsmanship conduct at any FCEC show(s)/event(s).

Article IX - Inhumane Treatment

- A. No person shall treat any horse in an inhumane manner. This prohibits against inhumane treatment applies to FCEC members and non-members alike. Inhumane treatment shall include, but not be limited to the following:
- B. • Excessive spurring or whipping. • Excessive jerking of reins. • Striking horse in front of saddle – period! • Intentional or negligent treatment which results in any bleeding. • Exhibiting a horse which appears to be sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, overly tired or deemed unfit for competition. • Any other treatment or conduct deemed by show management to be inhumane or abusive.
- C. Failure to comply with the above will result in the following:
- D. Punishment by offense:
 - a. First Offense – Warning
 - b. Second Offense – Expelled from Show/Event Grounds and forfeit of any/all points.
 - c. Third Offense – Expelled from FCEC shows/events for indefinite period and forfeit of any/all points to be determined by the FCEC Show Management Committee

Article X – Officers and Board of Directors

Officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Treasurer will serve a term of three (3) years.

Nomination and Election of Officers:

- Nominations of officers to be held at the November meeting.
- Nominations will be close at time of adjournment of the December meeting.
- Elections will be by majority vote of the members in good standings.
- Members must be present at the election meeting for their vote to count. Votes will be tallied at the election meeting held in January/February meeting via closed ballot.
- Votes will be tallied by the Secretary, Treasurer and two (2) Members At Large.

Duties of Officers:

President:

- Presides over club meetings/activities.
- Oversees and assists as necessary in the general activities of the club.
- Will appoint a Bylaws Revision Committee each year to review the Bylaws and appoint any other Committees as deemed necessary.
- Responsible for reporting to the Board of Directors.
- Will be authorized to sign checks for club expenses.
- Will be responsible for all correspondence(s) as directed by the Club and Leadership with the expectation of correspondence(s) related to the financial affairs of the Club.
- Will deliver all club property to his/her successor at term of office.

Vice President:

- In absence of the President, the Vice President will perform all duties of the President.
- Responsible for reporting to the Board of Directors in absent of the President.
- Will not be authorized to sign checks for club expenses.
- Will deliver all club property to his/her successor at term of office.
- Will be the club's official Points Secretary. Responsible for maintaining and recording the total points/trail hours for each eligible horse/rider combination as official show results are received from each approved show/event within two (2) weeks of said event.

Secretary:

- Maintain a complete and correct record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Club.
- Retain custody of Club documents and records which shall be made available for inspection at any time in the presence of the club leadership to any requesting member.
- Maintain attendance records for all members.
- Have the responsibility of completing and providing club meeting minutes to President within two (2) weeks of said meeting.
- Will turn over all records to his/her successor within two (2) weeks of the conclusion of term of office.

Treasurer:

- Collect all Club income and/or membership fees.
- Will be authorized to sign checks for club expenses.
- Make deposit(s) and retain reconciled bank records of the club.
- Pay all bills authorized by the Club.
- Prepare all checks for appropriate signatures.
- Submit written report regarding all financial activities at each club meeting and a yearly financial report to members.
- Club financial records shall be made available for inspection at any time in the presence of the Treasurer and club leadership to any requesting member.
- The previous year's financial statement will be audited with the Secretary, the incoming Treasurer, Members at Large not including the outgoing Treasurer and submit a written report prior to the beginning of each new term of office.

Board of Directors:

- Board of Directors shall serve a term of three (3) years.
- Board of Directors shall include the Founders and a minimum of three (3) business members or individuals of its Community.
- General responsibilities of the Board of Directors shall include but not limited to the following:
 - Provide leadership to Franklin County Equestrian Club (FCEC).
 - Guides and mediates Board actions with respect to club priorities and governance concerns.
 - Represents FCEC and its programs and services to the public, including community, funders, and members.

Article XI – Hold Harmless

Members and guests using facilities and grounds made available to the Franklin County Equestrian Club (FCEC) are using the facilities at their own risk and by using said facilities or grounds agree to hold harmless the property owners; the Franklin County Equestrian Club (FCEC), its officers, and member(s) for any and all injuries to themselves or their animals and personal proper

Article XII – Amendments

Prior to any amendments being made to these Bylaws a motion must be made, seconded by members in good standings and must be approved by 75% majority vote of the membership at the next meeting.

Article XIII – Disposition of Assets upon Dissolutions

In the event that the Franklin County Equestrian Club (FCEC) should dissolve, all remaining assets at the time of the dissolutions shall revert to a qualified non-profit organization to aid horse enthusiasts or horses.

2/11/17 – Approved & Adopted
11/20/17 – Revised
02/06/16 – Approved & Adopted
12/28/15 - Revised
02/07/15 – Approved & Adopted
01/30/14 – Revised
12/31/14 – Revised
11/01/13 – Approved & Adopted
10/07/13 – Revised
09/10/13 – Revised & Approved
01/03/12 – Revised & Approved
05/02/11 – Revised & Approved
05/03/10 – Revised & Approved