

1. Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be:

1. To assist the various government and private agencies in the establishment, maintenance and management of trails and other back country resources.
2. To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
3. To educate and encourage the wise use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public.
4. To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
5. To actively involve youth in activities related to our purpose, and maintain a family oriented organization.

2. Membership

2.1. Eligibility

Membership is open to any individual interested in promoting the purpose stated above.

2.2. Membership Types

Individual, Family (consisting of up to two adults and any number of children under the age of 18, all living at the same address), Supporter, and Sponsor. The Supporter category is for those members who belong to BCH America through another organization and only wish to receive information from BCHSG and Sponsor membership category is for those who want to make a more significant contribution to the organization, and the board may elect to grant additional benefits (for example, advertising).

2.3. Organizational Membership

Any outside organization may join and the membership fee shall be such that postage is covered for the quarterly Newsletter..

2.4. Dues

The dues amount for the various membership types shall be set by the board of directors. The membership year corresponds to the calendar year (January to December). Any new member joining in the 4th quarter shall have their membership valid through the end of the following year.

3. Voting

3.1. Voting Eligibility

All members in good standing are entitled to vote on all matters voted upon during membership meetings. Individual, supporter and sponsor members have one vote, while family sponsor members have two votes (one per adult). Organizational members shall have one vote, to be delivered by any designated representative.

3.2. Quorum

For a vote on any matter to be accepted, a quorum must be present at the meeting. At regular meetings, 10% of the voting membership present will constitute a quorum. At a board meeting, a simple majority (6) shall constitute a quorum. Exception is noted in sections 8.1 and 8.3 below.

3.3. Proxy Votes

If a member wishes to vote on a matter, but cannot attend the meeting, the member may still vote by providing a written notice. The notice should contain the member's name and number, member's signature, the subject of the vote and the member's decision. The written notice may be delivered by any means to the person tallying the votes, before or during the voting process.

4. Meetings

4.1. Membership meetings

Regular membership meetings shall be held with a frequency and at a time and place decided upon by the board members. Adequate notice must be provided. Notice of the regular meetings shall be announced to the members via the newsletter. Special meetings may be called by the board, and shall be announced by other means, if necessary.

4.2. Board Meetings

Board meetings shall be held on a regular basis at a time and place decided upon by the board members. Regular members shall be welcome to attend board meetings but they shall have no vote. Anyone who wants to attend a board meeting should contact a board member for the time and place and indicate if they have a matter they wish to present to the board.

5. Officers and Directors

5.1. Offices

The offices of this organization are president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

5.2. Directors

In addition to the officers, the board shall be comprised of seven (7) directors.

5.3. Vacancies

Any vacancy for any officer or director for the balance of such term shall be filled by appointment of the board, excepting the presidency, which will automatically be filled by the vice president.

6. Duties of Officers and Directors

6.1. Board of Directors (Officers and Board Members)

The supreme power and authority of this organization shall be lodged in its assembled meetings and the officers and directors shall conform to the wishes and instructions of the organization, but subject to such control and direction by the organization, the board of directors shall manage and execute the affairs of the organization. When the organization is not in session, the board of directors shall have all needful authority to execute the purposes of the organization.

6.2. President

It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the organization and of the board, and to exercise general executive control over the affairs of the organization, and to call special meetings of the members and/or the board, and to perform all other duties pertaining to such office. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

6.3. Vice President

The Vice President shall assist the President when called upon to do so, and in his absence, shall be vested with all the powers and duties of the president.

6.4. Secretary

The Secretary shall record and keep the minutes of all regular, special and board meetings; shall register the names of the members; issue notices and perform such other duties as pertain to such office. The secretary shall be responsible for maintaining custody of the records and papers of the organization (such as charter, by-laws, etc.). Communication with the members through a regular newsletter shall be the responsibility of the secretary although the board may appoint another member to assist with this.

6.5. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall collect dues, keep and disburse all the 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. The treasurer shall be responsible for the submission of any records and tax returns required by law and shall prepare an annual statement.

6.6. Director

The directors shall formulate policies, approve procedures and programs, establish dues, attend meetings, and generally assist and support the functions and programs of the organization.

7. Elections

7.1. Election of Officers and Directors

All officers and directors shall be elected by a majority vote at the regularly scheduled year-end meeting.

7.2. Terms

Directors shall serve two year terms with three vacancies occurring in odd numbered years and four in even years. Officers shall serve two year terms with the President and Secretary elected in odd numbered years and the Vice President and Treasurer elected in even years. The election at the end of the first year of the organization's existence shall be skipped.

7.3. Term Limits

No officer shall hold the same office for more than three (3) consecutive terms. There shall be no limit for service by Directors.

7.4. Nominating Committee

A nominating committee of three members shall be appointed by the board two months prior to the regular election of officers and directors. The purpose of the nomination committee shall be to provide a list of suitable candidates for officers and directors to the membership. The list shall be made available to the members one month prior to the election. Any member shall be allowed to submit a nomination to the committee.

