

Approved 6-7-2001

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF LAKELANDS BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE ONE (NAME)

SECTION 1 - NAME: The name of this organization will be “LAKELANDS BEEKEEPERSASSOCIATION.”

ARTICLE TWO (OBJECTIVES)

SECTION 1 – OBJECTIVES: The objectives of this nonprofit organization will be to encourage better methods among beekeepers of the Lakelands area, the State and the Nation, to promote cooperation among beekeepers, to reach a common understanding regarding our problems and their solution, to maintain friendly and helpful relations with those forces which are working to better the beekeeping industry, to develop markets for beekeeping products and to foster close cooperation among members of the Association.

ARTICLE THREE (MEMBERS)

SECTION 1 – MEMBERS: Anyone interested in beekeeping and/or the beekeeping industry may join the Association upon payment of the regular annual dues. Memberships are available at a Single level or Family. The right to vote is limited to members.

SECTION 2 – JR. MEMBERSHIP: Non-voting junior memberships will be open without cost to interested youths eighteen (18) years of age or younger. Junior memberships will have all other rights and privileges.

SECTION 3 – LIFE MEMBERSHIP: The Association may have life members. Such membership will be conferred by a majority vote of the members present at any regular business meeting upon a member who has contributed in some outstanding way to the Association’s aims and ideals or for meritorious service above and beyond normal service to the Association. Life members are exempt from annual dues but will have all the rights and privileges of membership including but not limited to the right to vote and to hold office.

SECTION 4 – HONORARY MEMBERSHIP: The Association may have Honorary Members. Such membership may be conferred upon a person who has given distinguished service to the Association or beekeeping industry in the Lakelands area, the State or the Nation. Honorary

membership may be granted by a majority vote of the members present at any regular business meeting. An Honorary Member has no rights or privileges in the Association and can neither vote nor hold office and is exempt from annual dues.

ARTICLE FOUR (OFFICERS)

SECTION 1 – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS: The Officers of the Association will be: President, President Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. There will be six (6) regular Directors and a Director-at-Large.

SECTION 2 – TERMS OF OFFICE: The Officers of the Association will serve for a period of two (2) years, ending on December 31st of the second year in office. Directors will normally serve three (3) revolving terms such that two Directors will complete their terms each year. However the first two Directors elected will serve until December 31, 2002, the second two Directors elected will serve until December 31, 2004. The two Directors elected at the last meeting of the year in 2002 will serve until December 2005 which will establish the desired revolving terms. The first Director-at-Large will be elected. Directors elected to a standing Office will relinquish their Directorship as no member may serve as an Officer and Director at the same time. Vacancies of office will be filled by appointment by the President for the unexpired term of office. For continuity, it is expected that the President Elect automatically becomes President upon expiration of the President's term in office. Only with a negative recommendation of the Nominating Committee and a two thirds majority vote of the Executive Committee should this desired succession not be carried out. Should the Association become eligible to provide a State level Board Member, that member will be appointed by the President and that appointment will not be cause for that member to resign from an Office or Directorship in the Association.

ARTICLE FIVE (DUES)

SECTION 1 – DUES: The annual membership dues will be determined by recommendation of the Executive Committee and approved by two thirds (2/3) majority of the membership at a regular meeting. Dues are payable on or before the January meeting in each calendar year to the Treasurer of the Association. The Secretary of the Association will insert a dues reminder in the letter announcing the first meeting of each calendar year. Any member who has not paid annual dues by February 1st of that same year will be dropped from the active membership rolls and will cease to be a member of the Association. Any person who has been dropped from the membership rolls may be reinstated by paying the current years Dues.

ARTICLE SIX (MEETINGS)

SECTION 1 – MEETINGS: Meetings will normally be held every month with exceptions as determined by the Executive Committee considering such things as seasonal needs of the members. Regular

meetings will not normally be held in December. Notice of meetings will be sent by email to each member of the Association. The Secretary will mail notices to each member of the Association that does not have email at least one week prior to the meeting.

SECTION 2 – ELECTIONS: The election of Officers and Directors will be held during the last meeting of the year as needed. Such members as are present will constitute a voting quorum.

ARTICLE SEVEN (COMMITTEES)

SECTION 1 – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: The Executive Committee will be composed of the Officers, Directors of the Association, Director-at-Large and Directors to the State Association if any. In case of a vacancy, the President will appoint a member to fill any unexpired term of office.

SECTION 2 – AUDITING COMMITTEE: The Auditing Committee will consist of the President Elect and two Directors appointed by the President.

SECTION 3 – NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The Nominating Committee will consist of three (3) members of the Executive Committee, appointed by the President and their duties will be to select and nominate a slate of Officers and Directors for the approval of a majority of the members present at the last regular meeting of the year beginning in year 2002. Other names may be submitted by the membership at large at the time of election.

SECTION 4 – EDUCATION COMMITTEE: The Education Committee will consist of the President and two (2) members of the Executive Committee, appointed by the President and their duties will be to adopt a program for training any youth or adult interested in beginning beekeeping at the certified level. The committee will plan the class dates, secure a location for the classes, advertise and collect all fees for the classes remitting same to the Treasurer. The chair of the Education Committee will be entitled to a bank card for ease in procuring textbooks and materials approved in advance by the Executive Committee, not to exceed the amount collected for fees.

SECTION 5 – SPECIAL COMMITTEES: Such committees as may be deemed necessary will be appointed by the President and will consist of members whose duties will be to serve as directed by the President.

ARTICLE EIGHT (QUORUM)

SECTION 1 – QUORUM: A majority of the members present will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular meeting. A simple majority of the members will constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE NINE (DUTIES)

SECTION 1 – PRESIDENT: The President will preside at all meetings of the Association using regular parliamentary procedure and Roberts Rules of Order. He will appoint all committees, fill all vacancies and perform other duties as the Association may direct. The President will be authorized to make deposits and disburse all monies should the Treasurer be unable to perform those duties. The President will be a member ex-officio of all committees.

SECTION 2 – PRESIDENT ELECT: The President Elect will perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President or upon the request of the President. If the President Elect is unable to perform this duty, the President Elect may appoint any member to perform this duty with the consent of a quorum of the Directors.

SECTION 3 – SECRETARY: The Secretary will keep an accurate record of the minutes and conduct such correspondence as may be necessary, including but not limited to notifying all delinquent members after the first meeting of the calendar year. The Secretary will at the end of their term present all records and minutes to the successor Secretary.

SECTION 4 – TREASURER: The Treasurer will collect all annual membership dues of the Association and issue membership cards. The Treasurer will be the custodian of all monies received by the Association and keep full and accurate records showing receipt and disbursement of all monies. The Treasurer will report the monthly account balance at Association meetings. The Treasurer will close the books prior to the final meeting of the year and make a complete report to the membership of the financial standing of the Association. The Treasurer will enable the President to make deposits and disburse all monies if the Treasurer is unable to perform these duties. The Treasurer will present the books and records to the Auditing Committee at the last meeting of the year. The Treasurer will at the end of the elected term present all records and minutes to the successor Treasurer.

SECTION 5 – DIRECTORS: Directors will act as members of the Executive Committee assisting the President in the activities of the Association. Should a Director be unable to perform a particular duty, he may appoint a member to act in his stead.

ARTICLE TEN (DISSOLUTION)

SECTION 1 – DISSOLUTION: Should this Association undergo Dissolution, any remaining assets will be distributed to one or more charitable organizations as determined by a quorum of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE ELEVEN (AMENDMENTS)

SECTION 1 – AMENDMENTS: Any article or any section of any article of the Constitution and Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of members present

provided that: (a) the proposed amendment has been presented to the Executive Committee for their review and recommendations and (b) the proposed amendment has been presented in writing to the entire membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE TWELVE (REPEALING CLAUSE)

SECTION 1 – REPEALING CLAUSE: This is the initial Constitution and Bylaws of the Lakelands Beekeepers Association. This Constitution and Bylaws was read and adopted by two thirds (2/3) majority vote of all members present at a regular meeting of the Association in the Master Gardener’s Store in the Cross Creek Mall in Greenwood, S.C. on June 7, 2001.

Updated November, 2021