

# Union County Beekeepers Association

## Constitution and Bylaws

### Article I (Name)

Section 1—Name: The name of this organization will be “Union County Beekeepers Association.”

### Article II (Objectives)

Section 2—Objectives: The objectives of this nonprofit organization will be to encourage better methods among beekeepers of the Union County 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 III (Members)

Section 1—Members: Anyone interested in beekeeping and/or the beekeeping industry may join the Association upon payment of the regular annual dues. The right to vote is limited to members.

Section 2—Jr. Membership: Nonvoting 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 Union County 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 IV (Officers)

Section 1—Officers and Directors: The Officers of the Association will be: President, Vice-President, 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 31<sup>st</sup> of the second year in office. Vacancies of office will be filled by appointment by the President for the unexpired term of office. If the President is the office vacated, the Vice President will assume the Presidency with the Vice Presidency being appointed by the New President for the unexpired term. Should the Association become eligible to provide State level Board Member(s), those member(s) 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 V (Dues)

Section 1—Dues: The annual membership dues will be determined by recommendation of the Executive Committee and approved by twothirds (2/3) majority of the membership at a regular meeting. Dues are payable on or before the date of the first 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 December 31<sup>st</sup> of that same calendar 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 VI (Meetings)**

Section 1—Meetings: Meetings will normally be held every month with exceptions for such things as seasonal needs of the members. Regular meetings will not normally be held in December or the month in which the annual State Association meeting is held (**July**). Notice of **meetings will be email, text, or phone calls made to each member of the Association by the Secretary or other volunteers** 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 VII (Committees)**

Section 1—Program Committee: The President, Secretary and at least two (2) other members appointed by the President will comprise the program committee.

Section 2—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 VIII (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 IX (Duties)**

Section 1—President: The President will preside at all meetings of the Association using regular parliamentary procedure and Roberts Rules of Order. The President 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 an ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 2—Vice President: The Vice President will perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President or upon the request of the President. If the Vice President is unable to perform this duty, the Vice President 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 all transactions of the Association. The Secretary will conduct such correspondence as may be necessary. 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, issue membership cards and notify all delinquent members after the first meeting of the calendar year. 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 a listing of all monies received and all disbursements made at each monthly meeting. Any amount to be spent exceeding \$100 must be approved by a quorum prior to purchases.** 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—Program Chairperson: The Program Chairperson will make the necessary arrangements for the programs and secure speakers. When directed by the Association will secure a meeting place and make necessary arrangements for meetings.

Section 6—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/her stead.

#### **Article X (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 XI (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 in writing to a quorum at least one regular meeting (30 days) prior to the meeting it is to be voted on.

#### **Article XII (Repealing Clause)**

Section 1—Repealing Clause: This is the initial Constitution and Bylaws of the Union County 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 **Clemson Extension Office of Union County on January 3, 2012.**