

2011

# Tri-County Pony Club By-Laws





Tri-County Pony Club, Inc.  
Schenectady, Albany and Greene Counties  
State of New York

By-Laws and Adoption  
November 22, 1959

Amended  
November 1989  
June 1994  
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## **ARTICLE 1—OBJECTIVES**

### Section 1

The name of this organization shall be the Tri-County Pony Club, Inc.

## **ARTICLE 2—OBJECTIVES**

### Section 1

The objectives and purposes for which this organization is formed:

This organization is dedicated to fostering a positive, affordable, and safe environment for the promotion and enjoyment of equines. It is our goal to establish a friendly, inclusive atmosphere where knowledge is shared and awareness is raised regarding the proper care of equines. Additionally, our organization looks to provide a positive channel for youth development, where honesty and integrity are valued the most, and offer assistance and resources to those within the membership and the equine community at large.

## **ARTICLE 3—MEMBERSHIP**

### Section 1

Qualifications: Membership in the club shall be open to any person residing in the Counties of Albany, Schenectady or Greene, in the State of New York, who is interested in trail riding, showing or promoting of ponies, either registered or non-registered; or persons residing within a 50-mile radius of Albany, Schenectady or Greene Counties.

### Section 2

Charter Members: Qualified persons who were at least 16 years of age and who signed the By-Laws by February 29, 1960, shall become lifetime members and no dues will be charged.

### Section 3

Lifetime members: Any one who has held consecutive membership in the club for 25 years shall be considered a lifetime member and no dues will be charged.

### Section 4

Candidates for membership, after February 29, 1960, shall be judged by the following standards: members will provide all animals under their ownership, control, care or custody with adequate shelter, water, food and veterinary care. Adequate being interpreted as that which will provide said animals with a healthy, comfortable environment and existence. Additionally, members shall have high ideals, be in harmony with the purpose of the club and have an agreeable personality. Members who do not comply with these standards shall relinquish their membership. Before any subsequent meeting after adoption of the By-Laws, any qualified person wishing to join the club should contact a member, who in turn will contact a member of the Membership Committee. Applicant shall become a member by a two-thirds vote of the members attending the next regular or special meeting, and shall be so notified, and invited to attend the next meeting.

### Section 5

Membership dues shall be determined by a majority vote of the general membership annually. Upon payment of dues a membership card will be issued, giving the member full privileges of membership. Such membership cards shall be non-transferable.

## Section 6

Family Membership: Parent(s) and child(ren) 17 and under as of January 1 or grandparent(s) and competing child(ren) 17 and under as of January 1 of the membership year.

Junior Membership: Persons who are 17 and under as of January 1 of the membership year. Junior members shall be non-voting.

Single Membership: Persons who are 18 and over as of January 1 of the membership year.

Any members who are age 12 and under AND nominate for year end points must sign up as a family membership.

## Section 7

Members who nominate for year-end awards are expected to follow rules on the nomination form.

## Section 8

Active Members: members who have paid the current year's dues and have attended two of the previous four general meetings (first year will be a probationary period). Only active members may vote.

## Section 9

Any membership may be revoked by a two-thirds vote of the active members.

# **ARTICLE 4—FISCAL YEAR MEETINGS**

## Section 1

The fiscal year of the club shall be the calendar year.

## Section 2

There shall be a regular meeting of the club during each quarter. Additional meetings may be called if necessary. Committee meetings will be called more frequently.

## Section 3

Special meetings of the general membership may be called at any time by the President, or upon request of any officer. Membership must be notified of any special meeting at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

# **ARTICLE 5—QUORUM**

## Section 1

One-fourth of the active, members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular, special or general membership meeting of the club

## **ARTICLE 6—OFFICERS**

### Section 1

The officers of the club shall be President, Vice President, Recording Secretary and Correspondence Secretary and Treasurer. The officers shall be nominated and elected at the annual meeting by the members for a term of two years, or until their successors are elected. Election of officers is to be by ballot. A majority of the votes cast is necessary to elect. If officers are running unopposed, the secretary may cast one vote representing the full membership.

### Section 2

In case a vacancy occurs in the office of President, the Vice President shall automatically become President. Vacancies in the offices of Vice President, Secretaries and Treasurer shall be filled at the next regular meeting of the club, by nomination and election by members present.

## **ARTICLE 7—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### Section 1

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Recording and Correspondence Secretaries, Treasurer and chairpersons of all standing committees, (By-Law, Show/Rules, Ways and Means, Membership, Banquet). In the event of dual responsibilities, the President may appoint, with the approval of the Executive Committee, an active member in good standing from the general membership for each duplication.

## **ARTICLE 8—DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

### Section 1

The President, or in his/her absences the Vice President, shall preside at all general meetings of the club, and the Executive Committee and shall have the power to call special meetings of either. He/She shall have the usual duties pertaining to such office.

### Section 2

The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President, and he/she shall have the usual additional duties pertaining to such office.

### Section 3

The Recording Secretary shall keep a complete record of all meetings of the club and the Executive Committee. He/She shall keep a record of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the club or Executive Committee. The option to have a Junior Secretary shall be available. The Junior Secretary shall assist in all duties of the Secretary.

### Section 4

The Correspondence Secretary shall be in charge of all correspondence of the club, including the website.

## Section 5

The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies, disburse and record that which belongs to the club. His/ Her books shall at all times be open to inspection by the Executive Committee, and he/she shall report to them the condition of the finances of the Club when requested. At the annual meeting he/she shall render an account of all monies received and expended during the year previous, in the form of a financial statement, for which account must be audited by the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE 9—COMMITTEES**

### Section 1

Committees are formed on an annual basis and volunteers are recruited from the active membership.

### Section 2

Committee members must meet the "objectives and purposes for which this organization is formed" (Article 2/Section 1). A member may be excused/dismissed from service on a committee at the committee members' discretion.

### Section 3

Other committees, whether standing or special, may be appointed by a vote of the officers of the club as the need arises.

### Section 4

Standing Committees shall be as follows:

By-Laws Committee shall consist of the four current year's officers and the chairpersons of standing committees. In the event of dual responsibility, the President will appoint one member from the general membership for each duplication, with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Membership Committee shall consist of at least four active members.

Show/Rules Committee shall consist of volunteers from the general membership. Duties shall include review and updating of rules annually. The Committee also organizes and plans, in their entirety, the shows for the upcoming year. All Show managers must be on the show committee.

Ways and Means Committee shall consist of at least four active members. One of the four members will be the current year's treasurer.

Banquet Committee shall consist of volunteers from the general membership. The Treasurer, Ways & Means chairperson and the Nominations/Points chairperson must serve on this committee. Duties shall include all aspects of organizing and planning the annual awards banquet.

### Section 5

Standing Committees must meet at least twice annually or more frequently as the need arises. The By-Laws Committee with unanimous approval of the members will meet on an "as needed" basis.

### Section 6

Each chairperson must provide an annual report for his committee's activities of the current year to be included with the annual financial report given by the Treasurer.

## **ARTICLE 10—AMMENDMENT OF THE BY-LAWS**

### Section 1

These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the club by a two-thirds vote of the active members present, providing, however, that the proposed amendment(s) has/have been provided to the club members in advance at a meeting, by mail or email. Amendment(s) will also be posted on the club's website.

## **ARTICLE 11—SEAL**

### Section 1

The seal of the club shall be in a form of a circle with a pony in the center, and shall bear the name of the club and the year of its formation.