By - Laws

MAINE MAVERICKS, INC

Article I – Corporate Name and Object

Section 1 – Name

The Name of the organization shall be Maine Mavericks, Inc.

Section 2 – Object

Its Object shall be to promote horsemanship by holding meetings, shows and events of interest to horse owners or people interested in horses.

Article II – Qualifications

Section 1 – Qualifications

Any reliable individual or any family with horses or interest in horses who will abide by the policies and by-laws of the corporation may apply for membership

Section 2 – Election of Members

Any reliable individual or any reliable family may submit a written application for membership to any member of the Board of Directors with proper application fee and/or dues. Family Membership shall be composed of “Head of Household”, spouse, and any children 18 years of age or under for which the aforementioned “Head of Household” or Spouse is the legal guardian.

Section 3 – Special Memberships (Honorary or Lifetime)

The Board of Directors may elect honorary or Life-Time members by unanimous vote of the directors present at any regular or special meeting. Such members are exempt from paying dues and entitled to all the privileges of other members.

Section 4 – Voting Privileges

Each individual member or each family member 12 years of age or over shall be entitled to vote one vote on all general membership issues or elections.

Article III – Financial Obligations of Membership

Section 1 – Annual dues and assessment

Dues are paid by the members and are set by the Board of Directors and due by February 28th of each year.

Section 2 – Special Assessments

Special assessments, when justified in the opinion of the Board of Directors, may be requested of the membership by written notice at least seven days prior to a regular or special meeting of the membership. Said notice shall state the purpose and amount of the proposed special assessment and the time and place of the meeting at which ballots will be cast. A two-thirds vote of the members present at said meeting shall be needed to approve an assessment.

Section 3 – Arrears

Members who fail to pay their dues within 30 days from the time they become due shall be dropped from the membership rolls and thereafter forfeit all rights and privileges in the corporation and must re-apply for new membership and pay the application fee unless it is waived by the Board of Directors for just cause stated in the minutes. Members who fail to pay their special assessments or other accounts with the corporation within

30 days of written demand for payment shall be dropped from the membership rolls and thereafter forfeit all rights and privileges in the corporation without a refund of dues.

Article IV – Termination of Membership

Section 1 – Automatic termination

Membership shall be automatically terminated for non-payment of dues, special assessments and other accounts as set forth in article III, Section 3.

Section 2 – Resignation

Any Member may withdraw from the corporation after fulfilling all obligations to it by giving written notice of such intention to the First Foreman or Secretary, which notice shall be presented to the Board of Directors at the first meeting after its receipt, noted into the minutes and filed, said member shall return any property of the corporation in his/her possession and shall not be entitled to refund of dues.

Section 3 – Expulsion of Member

Any member may be expelled for:

1. Conviction by Proper Authorities of cruelty or mistreatment of animals
2. Disorderly conduct at any corporation function tending to discredit the corporation
3. Conviction of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude
4. Conviction of a felony; at the discretion of the Board of Directors
5. Persistent and willful disregard of the by-laws and rules of the corporation
6. Conduct tending to discredit membership in this corporation

Section 4 – Procedure for Expulsion

When any member of this corporation shall be accused of any violation constituting grounds for expulsion, as above provided, the Board of Directors shall cause a written notice to be served upon such accused member ten days before the proposed hearing stating the person accusing the member, the charges and specifications against the accused and the time and place of hearing to be held. The hearing shall be conducted at a special or regular meeting of the Board of Directors. The First Foreman shall preside and make appropriate rulings at the hearing or may appoint a member in good standing with the approval of a majority of the Board to conduct the hearing. The Board of Directors at the time and place of the hearing shall require the accuser to offer evidence in support of the charges and specifications and shall give equal opportunity to the accused member to offer evidence to refute the charges. Both parties may call witnesses in support of or in opposition to the charges including character witnesses. All witnesses may be interrogated by the board. When the accused and the accuser have presented their evidence, the Board of Directors shall vote for or against the expulsion or may impose other sanctions and mail a copy of the findings to the accused within five days thereafter. At least eight members of the Board of Directors must be in attendance at said hearing. A vote or expulsion will require the vote of at least eight members. In the event that eight members are not available for said hearing, it shall be adjourned for the purpose of obtaining a quorum of eight unless the accused waives the requirement, in which case the vote shall be by three-quarters of the members of the Board in attendance.

Section 5 – Appeals in the event of expulsion only

In the event of a vote to expel a member, the member shall have the right to appeal the decision of the Board to the general membership by filing a written notice of appeal with the First Foreman or the Secretary within ten days of the date of the decision. The Board shall schedule a hearing at the next available membership meeting falling on a date which will permit the Board to give the membership at least 10 days' notice of the meeting. No new testimony may be presented or additional witnesses called at the membership meeting, except in the case of newly discovered evidence not discoverable prior to the Board meeting. The First

Foreman or the member who presided at the Board meeting shall preside at the membership hearing. A vote of three-fourths of the membership in attendance shall be required to reverse the decision of the Board.

Article V – Corporate Management and Organization

Section 1 – Board of Directors

The business and affairs of the corporation are conducted by the Board of Directors including promulgation, amendment, and enforcement of the by-laws, rule and regulations. The Board of Directors shall be composed of at least 12 members including 6 elected officers. The remaining 6 directors shall be elected as hereinafter provided. For any year following the retirement of a First Foreman, he or she shall automatically have a seat on the Board for the year following his/her term, in which event the Board shall have an additional member by reason thereof. The number necessary to constitute a quorum at meeting of the Board shall be a majority of the duly elected officers and directors and a majority of this quorum shall be governing except as provided herein under “Procedure for Expulsion of Members”. At least 7 days’ notice must be given to all Director’s before a meeting either by mail, telephone or personally.

Section 2 – Officer

The elected Officers of the Association shall consist of a First Foreman, Second Foreman, Third Foreman, Recording Secretary, Show Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 3 – Meetings

Meetings of the Board of Directors or the membership are called by the First Foreman, except that if he/she should refuse to call a meeting after being requested to do so by at least three Board members, then either the Second Foreman or any three Directors may call a meeting by at least 7-days’ notice in writing.

Section 4 – Power and Authority

The Corporation has the following power of authority: To purchase, mortgage, lease, sell or otherwise acquire, exchange or dispose of real, personal or mixed property, deed, gifts, bequests, devise or otherwise, in the furthering and fulfillment of the purposes and objectives of the corporation as set forth in Article I, Section 2 of these by-laws.

Section 5 – Terms of Officers and Directors

All officers will have a term of one year and may succeed themselves. All Directors who are not Officers shall have terms of two years except for the year 1983 when three Directors shall be elected for a term of one year and three Directors for a term of two years and thereafter as said terms expire for a term of two years. The retiring First Foreman shall automatically have a seat on the Board for a term of one year.

Section 6 – Duties of Officers and Directors

- The First Foreman is Chief Executive of the Association and presides at all meetings or appoints someone to preside in his/her place except at regular meetings when the Second Foreman, Third Foreman, Recording Secretary, Show Secretary, Treasurer – in that succession – shall preside in the absence of the First Foreman. He/She is automatically on the Board for a year following his/her term/terms as First Foreman.
- The Second Foreman shall have the power to perform the duties of the First Foreman in the absence of the First Foreman. He/She will succeed the First Foreman for the remainder of any term left vacant by reason of resignation or removal of the First Foreman. He/She is responsible for the supervision and maintenance of the main arena, arena equipment, and ring crew before/and/or shows.
- The Third Foreman shall have the power to perform the duties of the Second Foreman in the absence of the Second Foreman. He/She shall succeed the Second Foreman for the remainder of any term left vacant by reason of resignation or removal of the Second Foreman. He/She is responsible for the maintenance of the grounds outside of the main arena and the buildings.

- The Recording Secretary keeps the minutes of all meetings both regular and Board of Directors, is custodian of all documents and records and is responsible for all correspondence with the members and other outgoing Mail including the newsletter.
- The Show Secretary is the Chairman of the Show Committee which consists of the 6 elected Directors. The Committee's duties include holding meetings to put together the shows prior to the regular Board meetings; and at least two members of the committee shall be in attendance at all shows. The committee is also responsible for sending out programs to nonmembers, advertising of shows, keeping points for the club and open shows, ordering all ribbons and trophies, and assigning people to work in the registration booth.
- The Treasurer shall receive all money, shall disburse money only to itemized demands and upon order of the Board of Directors and account for all money. The itemized statements must be submitted in detail at the regular meetings.
- The remaining Directors are to assist the Officers where needed and should attend official club functions for the purpose, including club shows, open shows, and they shall be responsible for the formation of committees for social functions such as a kick-off party, trail ride, awards banquet, etc.

It is the duty of each member of the Maine Mavericks Board of Directors to attend all board and open meetings. Should any member of the Board of Directors absent himself unreasonably from three consecutive Board and Open meetings without sending communication to the First Foreman or Secretary stating the reason for so doing and it his/her excuse should not be accepted by the members of the Board, his/her seat may be declared vacant and the remaining Directors may forthwith proceed to fill the vacancy. Whenever any vacancy occurs for any other reason, it shall be filled without undue delay by a majority vote by ballot of the remaining members of the Board at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose. Persons so chosen shall hold office until the next annual meeting or until his successor shall have been chosen at a special meeting of the members.

Section 7

The Fiscal year shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31 of the calendar year.

Section 8 – Election of Officer and Directors

The Officers and Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting by members in the following manner.

7. The annual election meeting of the corporation shall be held at the Annual Awards Banquet each year.
8. Qualified and paid-up members in good standings shall elect Officers and Directors of the corporation.
9. Qualified and Paid-up members in good standings shall elect 18 years of age and over may be elected to serve as Officers and Directors of the corporation.
10. Voting rights shall be extended to every member, whether family membership or individual, of 12 years of age or over.
11. A nominating Committee shall be appointed by the First Foreman in or before October of each year. The Nominating Committee will submit a report of the nomination to the membership in November. Additional nominations may be made from the floor by any member in good standing at the annual election meeting.
12. There shall be two ballots: The first for the election of all Officers and the second for the election of the remaining Directors positions.
13. Three inspectors of elections shall be appointed by the First Foreman. These may not be a candidate for any office.

Section 9

Business of Annual Elections meeting shall be as follows:

- Call of Meeting to Order
- Election of Officers and Directors
- Adjournment

- Robert's rules of order shall be the parliamentary standard for all meetings of the corporation

Article VI – Amendment of Corporate By-Laws

Section 1

These by-laws may be amended by two-thirds vote of members present at a general meeting or annual meeting or a special meeting call for that purpose of a special mail-in ballot vote.

Section 2

No amendment shall be voted upon unless at least 7-days' notice in writing of the proposed amendment containing at least a summary thereof is included with the required notice of the meeting.

Article VII – Dissolution

Dissolution may be brought about by two-thirds of all persons entitled to vote at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose with at least 7-day notice in writing of the proposed disposition to all individual or family members.

Original	March 12, 1967
Revision	January 30, 1973
Revision	December 13, 1975
Revision	November 12, 1978
Revision	November 14, 1982
Revision	January 30, 1983
Revision	January 1, 1990
Revision	January 20, 1999
Revision	November 17, 2004
Revision	November 26, 2005
Revision	September 13, 2026