



BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
WHATCOM CHAPTER

BY-LAWS
REVISED MAY 2009

ARTICLE I - NAME

- Section 1 The name of this organization shall be "Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Whatcom Chapter, hereinafter referred to as BCHWW.
- Section 2 It shall be a chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Washington which is incorporated as a non-profit organization without issuance of stock, hereinafter referred to as BCHW. BCHWW herein adopts the BCHW bylaws and shall be subject to the terms and conditions of Washington Nonprofit Corporation Act.
- Section 3 The Chapter is formed for BCHW members who reside in Whatcom County and vicinity, and are interested in participating in issues and activities through a local chapter.

ARTICLE II - MISSION STATEMENT

- Section 1 The mission of this organization shall be:
1. To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
 2. To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
 3. To assist the various governmental and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
 4. To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
 5. To foster and encourage new members in BCHWW and BCHW.
- Section 2 BCHWW shall at no time conduct any activity which will jeopardize the BCHW current non-profit status or qualification as a charitable organization under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3).

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1 Membership in BCHWW is open to all members, in good standing, of BCHW. Application shall be made to BCHWW, by presentation of a current BCHW

membership card, or by application of membership to BCHW, and providing name and address information for the membership list.

- Section 2 A) Any or all assessed dues shall be deemed due on or before the beginning of the preceding fiscal year.
B) Dues not paid on or before February 1, after beginning of fiscal year, shall be deemed delinquent. Delinquent member or members will lose all club privileges until such time as said obligation is paid in full.

ARTICLE IV - MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1 Meetings shall be on a monthly basis to conduct any business of BCHWW, hereinafter called Business Meetings, and will be held at a time and location decided by a majority vote of the members at a Business Meeting.
- Section 2 All business conducted and approved at said meeting will be presented to the general membership in the next Business Meeting or Newsletter and approved by the membership at the next business meeting.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS, DIRECTOR AND THEIR DUTIES

- Section 1 BCHWW shall elect officers to include: President, Vice President, Director, Alternative Director, Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity Chair, and Trail Bosses. The election of officers will be at the November meeting. The term of office shall be the fiscal year with the exception of the Director and Alternative Director, see section 10.
- Section 2 The President shall preside at all Business Meetings and shall appoint such committees that may be necessary and appropriate.
- Section 3 The Vice President Shall Assist the President as needed, shall preside at meetings when the President is absent and shall act as coordinator of all committees.
- Section 4 The Secretary shall take care of correspondence, minutes of Business Meetings, and other records required for the operation and conduct of business of BCHWW.
- Section 5 The Treasure shall maintain the financial records and Bank accounts for BCHWW
A) President and Treasurer shall be authorized to sign checks
B) Payment of monetary obligations over \$50.00 requires approval of the majority of the membership present at the next regularly scheduled business meeting.
C) A review of all financial records shall be done yearly under the guidance of the president or his designee.
- Section 6 Director and Alternate Director:
A) The term of this office shall be 3 years.

- B) The Director shall attend quarterly BCHW meetings and report back to the membership at the next Business Meeting.
- C) If for some reason the Director is unable to attend such meetings the Alternate Director shall attend and report. If for some reason the Director is unable to complete the term of office, the Alternate Director shall serve the balance of said term. This would require the election of a new Alternate Director for a three year term.

Section 7 The Publicity Chair shall:

- A) Compile and edit material for advertisements and/or information for members, to include flyers announcing upcoming events, newsletters, articles for "The Trailhead News", and articles to newspapers or coverage by other new media.
- B) President must approve all new releases that quote BCHWW positions and /or policy on any and all issues.

Section 8 The Trail Bosses shall:

- A) Oversee trail activates and will have the final judgment in matters of trail condition, safety, horsemanship, and personal conduct of the ride participants.
- B) It shall be the responsibility of the Trial Bosses to see that release forms are signed by participants of said ride or event. They also shall be required to assure that no one under the age of 18 years is involved in the ride and/or event unless accompanied by a parent or proof of legal guardianship by a member in good standing.

Section 9 Vacancies of office shall be filled by election at a Business Meeting. Notice of vacancies shall be posted 30 days prior to election.

Section 10 Officers may be removed by a majority vote of members at a Business Meeting. Notification of action to remove an Officer must be made at the Business Meeting preceding the meeting that the action is to take place.

ARTICLE VI - HOUSEKEEPING

Section 1 The fiscal year shall be from January 1st through December 31st. The term of officers and chairs shall be December 1st through November 30th. The membership year shall by January 1st through December 31st.

Section 2 Robert's Rules of Order is adopted as a guideline for conduct of all meetings as long as consistent with these bylaws and applicable. The President may serve as Parliamentarian or may appoint a Parliamentarian. The decision of the Parliamentarian shall be final in all questions of procedure.

Section 3 Where ever the masculine genders is used herein the feminine shall be deemed included. Wherever the singular form is used herein the plural shall be deemed included to aid in the interpretation of the sense intended.

- Section 4 When the President is absent at a Business Meeting, the next highest officer in attendance as listed in Article V will preside. In the absence of any other officer necessary to conduct the business of the meeting the officer presiding may appoint a member at large to fill the absence.
- Section 5 The President and Treasurer shall be the registered Signatures on the chapter's bank account/s.
- Section 6 Upon Dissolution of the chapter, any unexpended chapter funds will be distributed to BCHW.
- Section 7 If any Provision on these bylaws is determined to be unlawful or unenforceable by any court, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

ARTICLE VII - BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS

- Section 1 These By-Laws may be amended, repealed, or added to, by motion of the membership at any Business Meeting, available in written form, to all members, at the meeting preceding the meeting during which the Amendments are to be voted upon and that an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members present is achieved.

By-laws approved by Membership April 08, 2009
(Date)

(Signature and Date) President

(Signature and Date) Secretary