

CONSTITUTION/ BYLAWS  
of the  
WYOMING BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN  
OF AMERICA

Original, February 1993  
Rev. 1, ratified May 1996  
Rev. 2, ratified March 2004  
Rev.3, ratified May 2008  
Rev.4, ratified Nov 2010  
Rev.5, ratified May 2011

CONSTITUTION/ BYLAWS OF THE  
WYOMING BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF AMERICA

ARTICLE 1

Name

The name of this organization shall be Wyoming Back Country Horsemen of America, hereinafter referred to as WYBCHA, and shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of Wyoming as a non-profit educational corporation. The executive body of WYBCHA shall be named the Wyoming Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as WYBD.

ARTICLE II

Objectives and Purposes

- Section 1. To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
- Section 2. To work to insure that public lands remain open to unrestricted recreational stock use.
- Section 3. To assist various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resources.
- Section 4. To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise and sustaining use of the back country resources by horsemen and the general public commensurate with their heritage.
- Section 5. To foster and encourage the formation of new Back Country Horsemen organizations.

ARTICLE III

Membership

- Section 1. Any organization which subscribes to the objectives and purposes of the WYBCHA as stated in Article II is eligible for membership.
- Section 2. To obtain membership in the WYBCHA, a prospective member organization shall submit an application to the WYBCHA requesting membership. Applications must include a copy of the applicant's governing documents [constitution/bylaws]. The governing document shall include the five [5] stated purposes of the Back Country Horsemen of America.
- Section 3. Each member organization [chapter] shall have "Back Country Horsemen" as part of its name.
- Section 4. Membership must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the WYBD assembled at a regular or special meeting.
- Section 5. The WYBD may revoke the membership of any member organization for violation of the WYBCHA Constitution/bylaws by a two-thirds (2/3) vote

of all Directors assembled at a regular or special meeting. This action must be ratified by two-thirds (2/3) of the state organizations in Wyoming.

Section 6. In the event that a member organization shall dissolve, it is the responsibility of that organization to see to the disbursement of assets including the closing out of all financial accounts and debts. Assets may be donated to the WYBCHA at the discretion of the folding organization.

#### ARTICLE IV Powers

Section 1. The authority of the WYBCHA shall be in its assembled directors. The WYBD shall execute this authority, and shall follow the direction given them by the member organizations and shall be responsible to them.

Section 2. The WYBD shall have power to take any action consistent with the Constitution or any duly enacted resolution of the WYBD.

Section 3. The WYBD shall be charged with the duties of distributing pertinent information, providing a clearing house for actions and ideas, and representing the state organizations on a national level. It shall assist local organizations in their efforts and provide help and direction.

Section 4. The state organization shall have equal representation from each member organization and shall decide state policy at the WYBD meetings. It shall also have the powers and duties contained elsewhere in this constitution/bylaws.

Section 5. It shall be agreed that policies and issues may have different effects in different communities. Therefore, member organizations may oppose the position taken by the WYBD in regards to controversial issues.

#### ARTICLE V WYBD Meeting

Section 1. The time and place of the WYBD meetings shall be held at the convenience of the WYBD.

Section 2. The WYBD shall have the authority to establish the agenda for the WYBD meeting.

Section 3. Any member in good standing of any member organization may attend WYBD meetings but shall not vote unless they are a director.

Section 4. Fifty percent (50%) of all WYBD directors shall constitute a quorum and can conduct business.

Section 5. The Chairman of the WYBD, or his designate, shall preside over business affairs of all WYBD meetings.

Section 6. Member organizations shall be assessed WYBCHA membership dues as determined and approved by the WYBD. This action shall be ratified by two-thirds (2/3) of the member organizations.

Section 7. All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order unless in conflict with this constitution/bylaws.

ARTICLE VI  
State Board Membership

- Section 1. Each membership organization may be represented by up to two [2] directors on the WYBD. Membership organizations are responsible for advising the WYBD of their chapter representatives and/or of any changes in representation.
- Section 2. Each WYBD director must be a member in good standing of a member organization. Each member shall represent only one [1] membership organization.
- Section 3. It is recommended that member organizations have an alternate director[s] to serve in the absence of a regular director. It is also recommended that the WYBD directors or their alternates serve staggered two-year terms.

ARTICLE VII  
Officers and Operation of WYBD

- Section 1. The officers of the WYBD shall consist of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and/or Treasurer, and such other officers and committees as the assembled WYBD shall create from time to time. The officers shall be elected by and from the WYBD for a term of two (2) years. Officers and directors shall assume office at the conclusion of the WYBD meeting at which they are elected. Officers shall complete their terms of office on the WYBD regardless of their status as an elected chapter director. Such officers who complete their terms as non-chapter director as a result of having not been re-elected by their chapter, shall not have voting privileges on the WYBD.
- Section 2. Officer positions which become vacant may be filled by special election of the WYBD.
- Section 3. The creation of any working committee shall be approved by the WYBD.
- Section 4. Duties:
- A. The duties of the Chairman of the WYBD shall be to chair all meetings of the WYBD, to keep the WYBD informed by appropriate means of events, issues or other matters of interest to the WYBCHA which affect pack and saddle stock use, trails, or involve land management issues.
  - B. The Vice Chairman shall assist the Chairman and shall assume the duties of the Chairman when the Chairman is absent.
  - C. The Secretary shall take and file minutes of all WYBD meetings and furnish copies of these minutes to all WYBD members and organizations. The Secretary is responsible for keeping the constitution/bylaws current and shall furnish copies of the

constitution/bylaws and any changes to all WYBD members and organizations. The Secretary shall also perform other duties normal to the office of secretary.

- D. The Treasurer shall keep and safeguard all monies relative to WYBCHA, include a treasurer's report as part of all WYBD meetings, and perform other duties normal to the office of treasurer. All disbursements shall be made by check and must contain dual signatures. The Treasurer's signature should appear on all checks in-addition-to a signature of the Chairman or Vice Chairman or Secretary.
- E. The directors shall represent their local organizations and be responsible to them. They shall serve as liaisons between their organization and the WYBD. They shall provide input to the WYBD and provide information from the WYBD to their local organizations. They shall keep the Chairman informed of events, issues or other matters of interest to WYBD.

- Section 4. Each Director shall have one vote with the exception of the Chairman who will vote only in the case of a tie.
- Section 5. The WYBD may take action by mail, phone, email, or fax provided that each Director is notified of the proposal.
- Section 6. The WYBD shall meet at least once a year, but may meet as often as necessary to properly conduct WYBCHA business. Notification of these meetings shall occur at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting date except in case of emergency. These notices shall contain the known business agenda so that the directors can confer with their local organizations. Special meetings must be approved by a WYBD majority.
- Section 7. Only members of the WYBD shall have the right to vote.

## ARTICLE VIII Finances

- Section 1. Expenses of individual directors may be borne by their local chapter at rates set by the local organization.
- Section 2. Expenses of the WYBD conducting business of the WYBD may be borne by the treasury of the WYBCHA.
- Section 3. All expenditures from the WYBCHA treasury shall be approved by WYBD.
- Section 4. The treasury of the WYBCHA shall be borne by all member organizations in a manner established by the WYBD and shall be ratified by two-thirds (2/3) of the member organizations.
- Section 5. The WYBD has the right to accept or reject any or all monies.
- Section 6. Money market funds shall only be transferred into the checking account, and no checks shall be written on the money market account.

ARTICLE IX  
Removal of Officers or Directors

- Section 1. Officers of the WYBD may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the WYBD.
- Section 2. A director may be removed by that director's local organization at any time. An alternate director may finish the removed director's term. A notification of removal and the name of the new director shall be furnished to the WYBD following such action.

ARTICLE X  
Constitution Changes

- Section 1. A vote to enact, repeal or amend the WYBCHA Constitution/Bylaws must be passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the WYBD, and ratification by two-thirds (2/3) of the member organizations.
- Section 2. Member organizations must ratify changes to the constitution/by laws prior to the next regular scheduled WYBD meeting.

ARTICLE XI  
National Affiliation

- Section 1. The WYBCHA shall become a member of the National Back Country Horsemen of America when the following conditions are met:
- A. National dues are current and paid in full.
  - B. The WYBCHA Constitution/Bylaws has been approved by the Board of Directors of the BCHA.
  - C. A formal application has been submitted and accepted by the Board of Directors of BCHA.
  - D. The WYBCHA has at least two (2) member organizations with a minimum of forty (40) members per state and no less than fifteen (15) members in any one membership organization.
- Section 2. Upon qualifying as an official BCHA state organization, the WYBCHA shall be entitled to two (2) voting delegates to the National Board of Directors of BCHA.

ARTICLE XII  
Officers to the National Board

- Section 1. Two (2) national directors and one (1) alternate national director shall be elected from the membership of the Wyoming Back Country Horsemen to represent Wyoming on the Board of Directors of BCHA.
- Section 2. National directors shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the WYBD.
- Section 3. National directors shall serve staggered two-year terms. National directors may serve multiple terms.

Section 4. National directors may be removed from the National Board of BCHA by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the WYBD.

ARTICLE XIII  
Saving Clause

Section 1. In the event portions of this constitution/bylaws are found to be inconsistent with state or federal law by a court of competent jurisdiction, such portions to the extent that they violate the law shall be deemed deleted and of no force and effect.

ARTICLE XIV  
Ratification

This Constitution/Bylaws will go into effect when ratified in writing by two-thirds [2/3] of existing WYBCHA member organization and kept in WYBCHA records.

\*Original WYBCHA Constitution/Bylaws ratified February 1993 by:

Wind River Back Country Horsemen  
Cloud Peak Back Country Horsemen  
Powder River Back Country Horsemen

2-93 / as

5-96 / cy

2-04 / ct and mt

5-08 / ly

11-10 / vh

| 5-11 / tb, ds, as

*Chapter Official's Signature*

For/Against

Date

Cloud Peak Back Country Horsemen

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Mountain Man Back Country Horsemen

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Pathfinder Back Country Horsemen

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Powder River Back Country Horsemen

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Shoshone Back Country Horsemen

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Snowy Range Back Country Horsemen

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Teton Back Country Horsemen

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Wind River Back Country Horsemen

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