

BIG COUNTRY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Bylaws

Article I

Identification + Affiliation

Section 1

The name of the organization is Big Country Beekeepers Association (BCBA)

Section 2

The organization shall maintain membership in the Texas Beekeepers Association.

Article II

Objectives

The objectives are to encourage and promote Beekeeping; to gain knowledge, exchange ideas, celebrate and commiserate, share techniques, skills and information through monthly meetings, mentorship, and workshops.

Through community partnerships, we strive to reach the greater Big Country, with knowledge and training about safety and preservation of honey bees. A focus on bee removals in a kind, attentive and knowledgeable way, will be promoted at all times.

Article III

Membership

Section 1

Membership shall consist of any individual, interested in the stated objectives of the organization.

Section 2

At this time, membership to the Big Country Beekeepers Association, is voluntary. The fee is \$25 for a single membership, and \$35 for a family membership, annually.

Memberships are annually renewable based on an anniversary date. The anniversary date is the day in which the membership last became effective.

Nonpayment of dues shall be considered as immediate voluntary resignation sixty (60) days after a member's anniversary renewal date.

Price of dues will be re-evaluated at the end of each year.

Article IV

Officers

Section 1

The Officers of this association shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Resource Coordinator. One person may serve temporarily as needed, in more than one capacity or office pending yearly elections. All Officers, and those serving as committee chairs, must be a minimum of 18 years of age, and should be members in good standing, known and active in the association.

Section 2

The Officers of this association constitute the Board of Directors. They are authorized by Article IV of these bylaws to act in a quorum for the considerations of special matters in the interim between regular monthly meetings, regular and special Board meetings.

Article V

Duties of Officers

Section 1

The **President** shall preside as Executive Director and Chairman at all meetings, and special events of the association. The President shall have authority to call special Board meetings, sign and authorize official association documents, and all other correspondence. They will establish meeting dates, times and locations, set the agenda for all meetings, and shall authorize and approve the yearly schedule of special events. The President shall authorize all checks for disbursement of funds, as requested by the Treasurer. They may appoint, with Board approval, various association members in good standing, to actively assist in various roles and tasks as deemed necessary. They shall serve as Program and Training Director for the association, and shall be responsible for overseeing special training programs and bee removal coordination.

Section 2

The **Vice-President** shall perform the duties of the President in their absence or incapacitation, and shall act in an advisory capacity at all times. They may appoint, with Board approval, various association members in good standing, to actively assist in various roles and tasks as deemed necessary.

Section 3

The **Secretary** shall keep an accurate and correct record of the proceedings and minutes of all meetings of the association. They shall be responsible for all monthly meeting notifications and special events, by email, and social media. They shall keep a current list of names, and contact details of all members. The members list may be made available for purposes of association mail-outs and notifications, but no commercial use may be permitted, without person and board approval. They shall take charge of the association's website. They may appoint, with Board approval, various association members in good standing, to actively assist in various roles and tasks as deemed necessary.

Section 4

The **Treasurer** shall have care and custody of monies and funds of the association. All funds of the association shall be deposited in a bank, authorized by the Board. They shall be authorized to sign drafts, checks and online banking systems of the association in the discharge of ordinary operating costs, and with approval of the Board, any out of the ordinary costs, or exceptional requests. They shall collect and file monetary donations from association members, and external contributors. They shall keep an itemized record, in a permanent file, of all receipts and expenditures, and be prepared to give a written report at frequent intervals, and provide a financial report year end. They shall present a budget for approval by the board at each new year. They shall keep an attendance roster of all meetings. They may appoint, with Board approval, various association members in good standing, to actively assist in various roles and tasks as deemed necessary.

Section 5

The **Resource Coordinator** shall ensure regular and new connections with other groups, first responders, educational systems, other non-profit organizations, and any other avenue with an interest in beekeeping, safety, and education. They shall ensure all new and current publications are available to the association, and liaise with businesses alike. They may appoint, with Board approval, various association members in good standing, to actively assist in various roles and tasks as deemed necessary.

Section 6

All Officers shall ensure the association's website is in working order, and regularly updated, to remain relevant. They may appoint, with Board approval, various association members in good standing, to actively assist in various roles and tasks as deemed necessary.

Article VI Committees

Committees and special project groups shall be appointed and created by the President or Board, at their discretion, as the need arises. Leadership roles shall be chosen by the board from existing members in good standing. All members should be willing to serve on committees or special project groups as needed.

Article VII Officer Election

Section 1

Officers shall be elected at the association's regular annual January meeting, and shall assume their duties immediately following adjournment of that meeting. Election shall be by nomination from the board and from association members, submitted for consideration electronically, or verbally prior to the January meeting. Election shall be conducted by the President with a reading of the nominees to the members, followed by a vote. If more than one nominee is being voted for a position, a ballot will be utilized. Ballot is to be counted by three members in good standing, appointed by the Board.

Section 2

Vacancies created by succession of Officers during their unexpired term shall be permanently filled at this election. One year equates to a full term of office.

Article VIII Meetings

Section 1

Regular meetings will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, at 6.30pm, unless otherwise announced. Typically, meetings will run for 60-90 minutes. Changes will be addressed as they arise, with every attempt made to notify members in a timely manner. The regular January meeting of each year shall be given by the President, Officers and Committee members.

Section 2

Special meetings may be called by the President, or Board members, with every attempt made to notify members and Officers in a timely manner of the reason.

Article IX Quorum

One-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) of the association's average membership attendance at the last three meetings shall constitute a quorum at any association meeting. A majority of the members of the Board (3 of 4 Officers present) shall constitute a quorum of that body and may act in-absentia of the President to conduct association business when the President has either requested, or has become incapacitated or negligent in their duties as defined in Article V, Section 1.

Article X Dues/Donations

Section 1

As stated in Article III, Section 2, membership to the Big Country Beekeepers Association, is voluntary. The fee is \$25 for a single membership, and \$35 for a family membership, annually. Donations are accepted, and financial support by its members is encouraged. Donations are accepted from external sources.

Section 2

The association's year shall be from the 1st day of January and shall end on the 31st day of December of each calendar year, inclusive. The acquisition of dues will be considered at every year end.

Article XI Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-third vote of the members present at any regular meeting, provided all members are notified in advance that such discussion or vote may occur. Copies of the proposed changes may be presented by the Board, reviewed, and discussed during the same association meeting in which the vote for approval of changes occurs.

08/21/2022

Amended 01/17/2023