



# By-Laws

## Article I

### NAME, AFFILIATION, AND PURPOSE

- Section 1. This organization shall be known as the Teton Valley BackCountry Horsemen. As established in Driggs, Idaho and approved by the Back Country Horsemen of Idaho (BCHI) as a chapter on March 22nd, 2020.
- Section 2. The Teton Valley Back Country Horsemen Chapter is an affiliate of Back Country Horsemen of Idaho (BCHI) and the Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) and shall operate under the laws of the state of Idaho as a 501-3 status non-profit, educational organization. EIN# 85-0597359.
- Section 3. The purpose of BCHA is:
- 1) To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness
  - 2) To work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use
  - 3) To assist the various government 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 the growth of BCHA

The purpose of the TTBCCH chapter is:

To share horsemanship education, connect with fellow equine enthusiasts, and provide a means to familiarize our membership with local trails. We are committed to doing our part as trail stewards while keeping the western riding tradition alive.

## Article II

### MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Membership shall be open to anyone who is committed to the purpose of this organization as stated in Article I. To be considered in good standing, members must have paid their dues in full. If the chapter's affiliation with BCHI and BCHA becomes inactive, paid members become members-at-large.
- Section 2. Membership shall correspond to the following dates: June 1st thru May 31st.
- Section 3. Class of memberships: there shall be two (2) classes of memberships, as designated as (1) individual and (2) family.
- 1) Individual memberships: one (1) person 18 years of age or older. An individual member is entitled to one (1) vote.
  - 2) Family membership: those individuals within one (1) immediate family unit (spouses, parents, and dependent children). Each family membership is entitled to two (2) votes.
- Section 4. All members, regardless of class, should submit a record of their volunteer hours/mileage/stock use hours to the volunteer hour coordinator (VHC) using the form available [online at TTBCCH.org](https://www.ttbcch.org) or from the VHC. Forms should be submitted by Dec 1st.

## Article III

### DUES

- Section 1. Dues shall be determined by a majority vote of the membership in attendance when voted upon. Motions to change the annual dues for the following year will be considered no later than the Fall Gathering meeting and voted upon no later than Dec 1st.. Dues shall be due and payable by May 31st<sup>st</sup> each year. Dues shall be considered delinquent if not paid by June 1<sup>st</sup> each year. If not paid by June 1<sup>st</sup>, the member shall be notified that they are no longer in good standing and could be removed by a majority vote at the next membership meeting and shall relinquish all voting rights and privileges until in good standing.
- Section 2. Participation on any committee or as a chapter officer shall be contingent upon the member being in good standing.
- Section 3. New members can send money in to join the Chapter for the *current* year (June 1st thru May 31st) anytime between January 1<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup> each year. Any new members joining on November 1<sup>st</sup> or later will be registered for the following year. There is no pro-rating of dues regardless of when the new member joins.

## Article IV

### STANDARD OPERATIONS

- Section 1. The chapter business and membership year shall be June 1st to May 31st.
- Section 2. The chapter shall use the *Newly Revised Robert's Rules of Order* as the operating guide to conduct business in all matters not in conflict with the chapter by laws and standing rules. A simple majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting may suspend their use at that meeting.
- Section 3. Ten (10) voting members in good standing (members) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any membership meeting. Three (3) board of directors (board) members constitute a quorum for board meetings.

Section 4. The chapter shall develop a “standing rules” document to govern the daily operations of the chapter.

## Article V

### OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEES

- Section 1. Members shall elect the following officers: president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Members shall elect the following directors: two (2) state directors and one (1) alternate state director.
- Section 2. All officers and directors shall be members in good standing throughout their elected terms.
- Section 3. The board shall consist of the president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.
- Section 4. Committees shall be formed as necessary to conduct the chapter’s business. As a minimum, there shall be a nominating committee and an audit committee.

## Article VI

### VOTING

- Section 1. The power and authority of the chapter shall be in its assembled voting members.
- Section 2. Individual members shall be entitled to one (1) vote and families shall be entitled to two (2) votes on all matters voted upon during a regular or special meeting.

## Article VII

### ELECTIONS

- Section 1. All chapter officers and directors shall be elected via online voting held in Nov/Dec. . The term of office shall be the next business year following the date of the election.
- Section 2. No chapter Officer or Director shall hold the same office for more than three (3) consecutive terms. One term consists of two (2) years. State Director and Alternate State Director should be staggered two-year terms.
- Section 3. Any vacancy in any office (other than president) shall be filled for the balance of the term through an election held in Nov/Dec.. The president’s position will automatically be filled by the vice president.

## Article VIII

### EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

- Section 1. No member shall make a financial commitment for the chapter without prior approval from the board.
- Section 2. The board can approve expenditures within the budget approved by the membership.

# Article IX

## REMOVAL OF OFFICERS OR DIRECTORS

- Section 1. Any officer or member whose conduct has not been in the best interests of the chapter may be removed from participation in chapter activities by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership at a regular membership meeting.
- Section 2. Notification of the intent to remove an officer or member must be made known at the regular meeting preceding the meeting that the action is to take place.
- Section 3. An officer or member who has been removed must be informed in writing by the secretary of the action taken by the membership.

# Article X

## REMOVAL OF MEMBERS

- Section 1. Any member may be removed from the chapter for failure to abide by the chapter's by laws and standing rules by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of voting members present at a regular or special meeting. The member agrees to turn over any chapter equipment in their possession upon removal.
- Section 2. Members designated for membership termination are entitled to hear such charges against them and are entitled to address such charges before the call for membership vote.

# Article XI

## AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. The by-laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the chapter provided that notice of such proposed amendment(s) is read to the assembled members at one (1) meeting prior to the vote.
- Section 2. Approval of such change shall be by motion and approved by a majority vote of the membership present.

# Article XII

## Assets and DISSOLUTION OF CHAPTER

- Section 1. The property of this organization is dedication to the specific purpose set forth in Article I. No part of the net income or assets of the organization shall ever incur to the benefit of any director, officer, or member thereof, or to any other private person, business, or organization. Proceeds from the sale of any asset of the organization will be added to the general fund of the chapter. Upon dissolution or termination of the organization, any assets remaining after payment of, or provision for the payment of, all debts and liabilities of the organization, shall be given to the Back Country Horsemen of Idaho state organization.

# Article XIII

## RESPONSIBILITY FOR INJURY

Section 1. The Teton Valley Back Country Horsemen Chapter for Back Country Horsemen of Idaho shall not be responsible for accidents or injury incurred by a person or persons engaged in any activity of the organization and also recognizes its protection under Idaho State Law, "Idaho Code, Chapter 18, Section 6.1801-6.1802, Equine Activities Immunity Act." It shall be presumed that all participants in equine and livestock activities are aware of and understand there are inherent risks associated with these activities. "Inherent Risk(s)" with regards to equine or livestock activities means all dangers or conditions which are an integral part of equine or livestock activities. The equine activity sponsor is not liable for those Inherent Risks. All members and their guest participating in chapter activities acknowledge that they assume full responsibility for all risks involved.

## Article XIV Access to By-Laws

Section 1. A copy of these By-Laws will be given to all new members and as needed on an annual basis at the first meeting each year and a copy will be posted on the chapter page of BCHI website as well as TTBCCH's website

## ARTICLE XV RATIFICATION

This by laws document, as ratified on this 28th day of January, 2023, hereby supersedes all previous constitution and bylaws instruments of the Teton Valley Back Country Horsemen. In witness whereof, the undersigned make these amendments to the existing constitution and by-laws instrument of the Teton Valley Back Country Horsemen, as passed by the membership who voted in person or via email in Nov/Dec.. The undersigned attest to the validity of this document.

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Melissa Pangraze , Chapter President

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Lacy Garton, Chapter Secretary

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Date signed 1/28/23