

Constitution

Article I – Name

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the Alabama Beekeepers Association.

Section 2: The Association's slogan shall be: Better queens, package bees and honey for everyone.

Article II – Objectives

The objective of this Association shall be:

To assist in checking the spread of honey bee diseases, to spread and exchange information on experiences, ideas and improved methods of production and sale of queens, package bees and honey, to inform the public of the importance and value of honey bees as pollinators of plants and of honey as food for man and to elevate the business of beekeeping to a place of eminence in the agricultural industry.

Article III – Non-Profit Organization

The Alabama Beekeepers Association is a non-profit Association. Any funds received by the Association for carrying out its objectives shall not accrue to the direct benefit of individual members. This shall in no way prohibit the Association from recognizing or honoring individual members.

Article IV – Membership

Section 1: The membership of this Association may be composed of three classes: namely, regular, sustaining and honorary.

A. Regular members are individuals who pay annual dues to the Alabama Beekeepers Association. Members may pay these dues through local, County or area associations that are affiliated with the Alabama Beekeepers Association, or directly to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Alabama Beekeepers Association.

B. Sustaining members are individual persons, companies, corporations, associations or foundations that desire to join with this Association in a united effort to accomplish its objectives. Sustaining Members are approved for membership the Board of Directors, and pay annual dues. A sustaining member shall have the same rights and privileges as a regular member.

C. Honorary members of the Association may be named upon recommendation of the Board of Directors and approved by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any official meeting of the Association. Honorary members will not pay membership dues. Honorary members will have all rights and privileges of members of the Association, except the right to vote, make motions, and hold office.

Section 2: Membership in good standing may be maintained only by payment of all dues and assessments levied by the Association.

Section 3: All members in good standing have the right to vote, except honorary members.

Article – V – Officers

Section 1: The officers of this Association shall be as follows: President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer.

Section 2: Only members of this Association in good standing shall be eligible to serve as officers of this Association.

Section 3: All officers of this Association shall be elected each year at the annual meeting and the term of office shall commence at the end of the meeting following their election and shall continue until their successors are elected. The offices of President and Vice-President cannot succeed themselves in that office more than one term, the intent being to limit incumbency in these positions to no more than two years, consecutively.

Article VI – Board of Directors

- Section 1: The Board of Directors shall consist of elected members and members ex-officio.
- Section 2: Six members of the Board of Directors shall be elected at large, two members being elected each year for a term of three years. Only members of the Association in good standing shall be eligible for the election of the Board of Directors.
- Section 3: The President, the Vice-President, the Secretary/Treasurer the immediate Past President, and the president of each county and/or area beekeepers association affiliated (according to Article V, Section 1(a) of the By Laws) with the Alabama Beekeepers Association shall be members ex-officio of the Board of Directors.
- Section 4: The President of the Association shall be Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Secretary of the Association shall be the secretary of the Board of Directors.
- Section 5: Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the call of the President, or of any four members of the Board, but no meeting shall be held without notice of the time and place being given to every member of the Board of Directors.

Article VII – Meetings

- Section 1: The Alabama Beekeepers Association shall hold an annual meeting for the transaction of its business.

Section 2: The time and place of any meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors, and written notice shall be mailed to each member at least 14 days prior to the meeting date.

Section 3: Special meetings of the Association may be called at any time by the Board of Directors, or by the President of the Association upon the written request of ten members.

Article VIII – Quorum

Section 1: Ten members in good standing and present at any regular or special meeting of the Association shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2: Six members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum of the Board.

Article IX – Amendments

Section 1: This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any annual or special meeting called for that purpose.

Section 2: Proposed amendment(s) must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Association at least 30 days before the annual or special meeting at which they are to be considered. The Secretary/Treasurer shall mail a copy of the proposed amendment(s) to each member at least 14 days before that annual or special meeting.

Section 3: The vote on any amendment shall be by ballot.

By Laws

Article 1 – Elections

- Section 1 The officers of this Association shall be elected each year for a term of one year at the annual meeting.
- Section 2: Two of the six elected members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by the Association at each annual meeting provided that at the first election held under these by-laws two members shall be elected for one year, two for two years, and two for three years.
- Section 3: Nominations to elective office may be made by a Committee on Nominations. The Committee on Nominations shall be appointed by the President a minimum of 30 days prior to the election and shall consist of 6 members (2 each from the Northern, Middle and Southern region of the state); and shall be representative of hobby, side-line and commercial beekeepers. No member of the Nomination Committee shall be a candidate for office.
- Section 4: A majority vote is required for all elective officers.
- Section 5: The Board of Directors may fill any vacancy that occurs in any elective office between annual meetings.

Article II – Officers

- Section1: The President shall: preside at all meetings of this Association and of the Board of Directors; appoint committees to perform functions of the Association, and see that the committees report on schedule. In the Absence of the President the Vice-President shall preside at meetings of the Association, and Board of Directors. In the Absence of both the President and Vice-President one of the other officers shall preside.
- Section 2: The Vice-President shall: know the duties and responsibilities of the President, assist the President in performance of his

duties, and be prepared to assume these duties when the President is absent. The Vice-President shall be chairman of the program committee of the annual meeting and shall guide the members of the committee on local arrangements.

Section 3: The Secretary/Treasurer shall: Keep the minutes of all meetings of the Association and Board of Directors; be custodian of all records except those specifically assigned to others; keep a current list of members paying dues and in good standing; give notice of all meetings; conduct all correspondence; file and preserve all papers belonging to the Association; collect membership dues; pay all bills as authorized by the Board of Directors; keep an accurate account of all receipts and expenditures, and deliver to his or her successor in office all records belonging to the Association.

Article III – Board of Directors

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall administer the policies and the affairs of the Alabama Beekeepers Association, except as otherwise provided in the constitution and by-laws.

Section 2: The Board of Directors shall elect by majority vote any delegate representative or nominee to any agency or organization representing the Honeybee Industry, as the delegate, representative or nominee representing the State of Alabama.

Article IV – Committees

Section 1: When a President takes office, all positions on committees, except those provided for in the by-laws, shall be automatically vacated, leaving the incoming President free to make his own appointments.

Section 2: The following standing committees shall be appointed by the President, program, local arrangements, fair, membership, audit, resolutions and publicity.

Section 3: The President shall appoint such other committees as will best serve the interest of the Association and its membership.

Article V – Membership Dues

- Section 1: Regular members. The annual dues for membership in the Association shall be \$10.00 per person, payable in January. The fiscal year shall begin on January 1.
- A. Local Associations may become affiliated with the Alabama Beekeepers Association by registering at least 10 members per year with the parent association.
 - B. The Secretary/Treasurer of local beekeeper associations shall pay \$10 for each member to the Treasurer of The Alabama Beekeepers Association for membership in this Association.
- Section 2: Sustaining members shall pay minimum annual dues of \$25.00.
- Section 3: Only two notices for payment of membership dues will be sent to the membership. The first notice will be sent with notice of the annual meeting. The second notice will be sent 30 days after the annual meeting. If dues are not paid, after the second notice, the member's name will be removed from the active list and put on the inactive list. The Secretary/Treasurer shall mail notices for payment of membership dues.

Article VI – Funds

- Section 1: The funds of this Association may be used for any necessary purpose the Board of Directors may consider for the interest and advancement of the Association.

Article VII – Audit

- Section 1: There shall be an audit of the Association's finances. The President shall appoint a committee to make the audit, and this committee shall make its report at the annual meeting.

Article VIII – Amendments

Section 1: These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any annual or special meeting called for this purpose, provided 14 days notice and a copy of the proposed amendment(s) is mailed to each member of the Association.

Article IX – Parliamentary Procedure

Section 1: Roberts rules of order, revised shall be used as the parliamentary authority where it is not superseded by the constitution and by-laws of this Association.