

## **Ameraucana Alliance Constitution – 1/1/2016**

### Article I – Name

This organization shall be known as the Ameraucana Alliance.

### Article II – Mission

Our mission is simple...an alliance of folks focused on the promotion of standard bred Ameraucana and positive support for those interested in standard bred Ameraucana.

### Article III – Membership

Any person or organization with a sincere interest in the mission of the Ameraucana Alliance may become a member upon payment of the annual dues. However, a member may be expelled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors for acts deemed harmful to the Ameraucana breed and/or this organization.

### Article IV – Dues

Annual dues shall be set by the Board of Directors and shall be payable on January 1st for each calendar year.

### Article V – Organization

Section 1. The officers comprising the Board of Directors shall consist of the following:

President  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Club Director (4 positions)

Section 2. Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the membership to a term of two years beginning on the first day of January following the election.

Section 3. Open positions on the Board of Directors shall be filled by a person selected by the President and approved by majority vote of the Board of Directors. If the President is unable to serve, the remaining members of the Board of Directors will select a replacement by majority vote.

## **BY-LAWS**

### Article 1 - President

The President shall assume the duties of Chairman of the Board of Directors. The President shall be responsible for the execution of the Constitution and Bylaws and shall receive and process all proposals for their amendment. The President shall preside at club meetings when present and may appoint another officer to preside when absent. The President shall appoint an Election Commissioner and Assistant Election Commissioner for the biennial election. Committees, headed by a Board member, may be appointed by the President. The president shall have access to all monetary accounts of the club. The President shall endeavor to see that all officers properly discharge their duties, take an active part in publicity, public relations, and other activities deemed necessary for the betterment of the club.

### Article 2 – Honorary Vice President(s)

The Board of Directors may establish a policy concerning an honorary lifetime Vice President(s).

### Article 3 – Secretary/Treasurer

The Secretary/Treasurer shall conduct club correspondence, collect and receive all monies due the club, pay all bills undertaken by it, and keep a record of these transactions. The Secretary/Treasurer shall publish quarterly financial reports in the club newsletter. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be custodian of all club records and be responsible for issuing a quarterly newsletter to all club members detailing current and forthcoming club activities. Quarterly newsletters should be mailed according to the schedule: Spring, March 1<sup>st</sup>; Summer, June 1<sup>st</sup>; Fall, September 1<sup>st</sup> and Winter, December 1<sup>st</sup>. The Secretary/Treasurer shall surrender all pertinent files, monies, and other club property to the new Secretary/Treasurer at the expiration of his term of office in a timely fashion.

### Article 4 – Club Director

Club Directors shall be responsible for actively promoting the club and its' activities and take an active part in the recruitment of new members. They shall assist the Secretary with secretarial duties as outlined in Article 5.

### Article 5 - Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall control the affairs of the club at all times. They shall remove from office any officer, upon majority vote of the Board, for misconduct or failure to adequately perform the duties of his or her office.

They shall contribute quarterly reports to be published in club newsletters. Each Board member may be an Administrator on any internet forum and social media site that the club has. All Board members are expected to help with Secretarial duties at the request of the Secretary and upon appointment of the President. These duties may include the placing of club meets, reporting meet results for the newsletter, sending club awards to members, tallying exhibitor points, publishing the newsletter, acting as webmaster and other duties related to the internet and social media, organizing and facilitating the club's National Meet and any other areas as needed.

#### Article 6 - Club Meetings

An annual meeting, open to all members, shall take place each year in conjunction with the National meet whenever feasible.

#### Article 7 - Election Commissioner and Assistant Election Commissioner

An Election Commissioner and Assistant Election Commissioner shall be appointed by the President by August 15<sup>th</sup> of an election year. They cannot be current officers or on the ballot for office. The Commissioner may receive ballots via email, thru an online voting site and by U.S. Mail. The Commissioner shall tally them and promptly forward the results and the ballots to the Assistant Election Commissioner. The Assistant will then forward only the official election results to all Board members. The Assistant Election Commissioner shall retain the ballots until December 31<sup>st</sup>, in case of any challenges to the election, and then destroy them.

#### Article 8 - Election of Officers

Officers shall be elected every two years. No member may hold more than one Board office at a time. Any charter member without a lapse in membership (becomes "Any continuous member for at least 5 years", on January 1, 2020) that is not also a member of another Ameraucana breed club (due to any possible conflict of interest), may be nominated as a candidate to office. Nominees for President must also have first served at least two full two year terms on the Board of Directors, before taking the office of President (effective 1/1/2018). Nominations must be received by the Secretary by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Ballots shall be prepared by and mailed by the Secretary to members by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Completed ballots must be received by the Election Commissioner by November 1<sup>st</sup>. When only one member accepts the nomination for any office that person will be elected by acclamation. The official election results shall be included in the Winter Newsletter and the new officers shall assume office on January 1st.

#### Article 9 - Club Meets

The Board of Directors shall approve a Meet Policy to govern club sanctioned meets, except for the National Meet that is governed by Article 10.

#### Article 10 – National Meet

Any member may solicit bids (offers) from poultry show clubs wishing to host an Ameraucana National Meet and submit them to the President. Bids must be received by November first to be considered for the club's National Meet to be held the following fall. The President shall share the list of bids with the Board members for discussion. The President will then ask for the Board to vote on the show club bids before November 15<sup>th</sup>. The Secretary will place the meet and promote it in the Winter Newsletter. If the show is cancelled for whatever reason, the President will direct the Board to vote to place the National Meet at another show as soon as possible. Club sponsored awards offered at the annual Ameraucana National Meet will be determined by the Board of Directors.

#### Article 11 - Interpretation

A simple majority (more than half of all ballots cast) is required for passage of membership votes and an absolute majority (a majority of **all** Board members, not just those who voted) is required for passage of Board of Director votes. Email counts as "Mail". In all cases of dispute arising from interpretation of the Constitution and Bylaws of this club, and on all other matters not covered herein, a majority vote of the Board of Directors shall decide the issue. Such decisions shall be declared final.

#### Article 12 - Amendments

Any proposal to amend or alter the Constitution and/or Bylaws of the Ameraucana Alliance shall be submitted to the President. He or she will in turn submit the proposal to the Board of Directors who will decide by majority vote whether to place the proposal before the membership for a vote. Proposals passed favorably by the Board of Directors shall be included on the ballot with the biennial election of officers to be voted upon by the membership. If adopted by a majority of voting members the amendment shall become effective on January 1st following the election. The amended Constitution and Bylaws shall be included with the Winter Newsletter.