

CONSTITUTION FOR THE MID OHIO DAIRY GOAT ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I

Section 1: The name of the association shall be The Mid-Ohio Dairy Goat Association.

Section 2: The objectives of the association shall be:

- A. To advance the cause of the dairy goat industry
- B. To encourage and promote the breeding of dairy goats and to bring their natural qualities to perfection.
- C. To encourage and promote the use of products produced by and from goats.
- D. To foster and promote the public exhibition of dairy goats according to the rules of the American Dairy Goat Association.
- E. To conduct promotional and educational activities for members and interested persons about dairy goats.
- F. To promote closer fellowship among goat owners and enthusiasts by coordinating the activities of various local events and to improve the image of the dairy goat and dairy goat breeders.
- G. To promote activities for youth in the dairy goat industry.
- H. To facilitate the interchange of useful knowledge and helpful ideas and in general, to provide in every way possible for the mutual protection, benefit and welfare of this association.

Section 3: The association shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profits of remainder or residue from dues or donations to the association shall benefit any members or individual.

Section 4: The members of the association shall adopt and may from time to time revise such by-laws as may be required to carry out these objectives.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: Membership

Section 1: Eligibility: There shall be three types of membership.

- A. Individual: Open to all reputable persons eighteen years of age and older who subscribe to the purposes of this association
- B. Family: Open to families, herds or partnerships. This type of membership allows only one vote for the family or partnership.
- C. Youth: Open to reputable youth nine through eighteen years of age. There shall be one vote allowed per every three associates on local club business.
- D. Associate membership: Shall be open to anyone who counts towards the membership in another ODGA affiliated club, upon payment of dues, may

be a resident of states other than Ohio, will receive newsletters, but has no vote.

Section 2: Dues:

Membership dues shall be \$20.00 per year for individual, family, or herd memberships and \$10.00 per year for youth and associate members, payable on or before the first day of October of each year. Dues will include membership in the Ohio Dairy Goat Association and newsletters from each association for individual, family, youth or herd memberships. The Treasurer and/or membership chair shall send to each member a statement of their dues for the coming year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. All new memberships shall receive a copy of the association's current constitution and by-laws.

Section 3: Membership Chairman:

The president shall appoint a membership chairman whose duties shall be to secure members for the association. Keep accurate records membership lists with detailed records and dates. Prepare a membership directory to be available to all members upon request.

Section 4: Termination of membership:

Memberships may be terminated for the following reasons:

- A. By resignation. Any member may resign from the association upon written notice to the Secretary, but no member may resign when in debt to the association.
- B. By lapsing. A membership will be considered lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 90 days after the first day of the fiscal year.
- C. By expulsion. A membership may be terminated or suspended for any act or conduct unbecoming or detrimental to the interest of this association. Written and signed charges by 25% or more unrelated members in good standing are required to initiate proceedings. Upon the filing of charges, written notice will be sent by the Secretary by certified mail to the accused and each executive officer. Said notice shall contain the charges, time and place of hearing and shall state that the accused will have the opportunity for defense. Said notice shall be sent thirty (30) days prior to the hearing. A 1/2 affirmative vote of all members present and voting shall be required for suspension and a 2/3 affirmative vote of all members present for expulsion. All voting shall be by secret written ballot.

ARTICLE II: Meetings

Section 1: Regular meetings: Regular meetings of the association shall be held at a time and place to be determined by the membership. The quorum for these meetings shall be 25% of the present membership, with two presiding officers.

Section 2: Special association meetings: May be called by the president; or by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by 10% of the members of the association who

are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held at such hour and place as may be designated by the president in consultation with the other officers. The secretary shall mail written notice of the meeting at least 7 days and not more 30 days prior to the meeting. The notice of the meetings shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other association business may be transacted. The quorum for such meetings shall be the same as that of a regular meeting.

Section 3: Voting: Each member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the association at which they are present. Proxy voting shall not be permitted and ballots by mail must be sent on any question.

ARTICLE III: Officers

Section 1: Officers: The association's officers consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, Regular Directors and Alternate Directors to the Ohio Dairy Goat Association shall serve in their respective capacities with regard to the association and its meetings for a period of two years with the President and Treasurer elected in even numbered years and the Vice-President and Secretary elected in odd numbered years. They shall have general supervision over the affairs of the association, shall direct its policies and shall control procurement, custody and expenditures of the association funds.

- A. The President shall preside at all meetings of the association and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President in addition to those particularly specified in these By-Laws. The President is automatically a director to the Ohio Dairy Goat Association. The President shall also handle the association bank accounts in the absence or incapacity of the Treasurer. The President shall serve as an ex officio member of all committees.
- B. The Vice President shall have the duties and exercise the powers of President in the case of the President's death, absence or incapacity. The Vice President shall serve as an ex officio member of all committees.
- C. The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the association and of all votes taken by mail, and of all matters of which the association shall order a record. The Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence, keep a roll of the members of the association with their addresses, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these By-Laws.
- D. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the association. The treasurer shall deposit the same in a bank in such accounts as approved by the association in the association. The books shall at all times be open to inspection and the treasurer shall report at every meeting of the association's financial condition and every item of receipt or payment not before reported. The treasurer's books shall be audited once each year by a committee of three appointed by the President. In the absences of the President and Vice President the Treasurer shall conduct the meeting.

- E. Directors to the Ohio Dairy Goat Association collectively represent the association on any matters which shall come before the Ohio Dairy Goat Association.
- F. Alternate Directors to the Ohio Dairy Goat Association shall be elected to serve in the absence of the regular directors.

Section 2: Vacancies: Any vacancies occurring among the officers during the year shall be filled until the next election by a majority vote of all the members present at the next monthly meeting except that of a vacancy in the office of the President shall be filled automatically by the Vice President, and the resulting vacancy in the office of Vice President shall be filled by election of the members present at the next regular meeting.

ARTICLE IV: The Club Year, Nominations, Elections

Section 1: Club Year: The association's fiscal year shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December. The association's official year shall begin immediately following the September meeting and shall continue through the next September membership meeting. The elected officers shall take office immediately upon the conclusion of the October membership meeting and each retiring officer shall turn over to his successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the election.

Section 2: Nominations: Nominations may be made by members in good standing from the floor at the October membership meeting. No person may be nominated who is not a member in good standing. Any member not present at the meeting where elections are being held must present a written notice to the current secretary of their intentions for holding said office should they be nominated from the floor. There shall be at least two nominees for each office.

Section 3: Elections: After nominations are closed, voting will proceed by secret written ballot. The nominee receiving the majority of votes for each office shall be elected. The current president shall appoint the counting committee.

ARTICLE V: Committees

Sections 1: The President shall each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the association in such matters as:

- A. Newsletter. The editor of the newsletter shall prepare and incorporate items of association business and news of the membership and local affiliated clubs into a newsletter which will be published monthly at or near the first day of the month. The editor shall be responsible for maintaining accurate records of all income and expenditures pertaining to the newsletter and for submitting an itemized accounting to the treasurer prior to each meeting. The executive board shall determine advertising rates and rules. The newsletter shall be available to all adult members as part of their membership fees and to non-members for a fee of \$10.00 and to junior members for an additional \$5.00 per year.

- B. Parliamentarian. This person shall be responsible for all matters of parliamentary procedure and for maintaining an up-to-date constitution for the association. They are responsible to keep this document available at all meetings of the association, to all members upon request and current with the Ohio Dairy Goat Association.
- C. Historian. This person is responsible for maintaining a historical documentary record of this association. This should include, but is not limited to all newsletters, annual membership listings, publications, photographs, videos, newspaper articles and other items of interest pertaining to the association and its members.
- D. Programs. This committee is responsible for planning programs and events for the education and promotion of dairy goats, caprine products, and association image on a regular basis at meetings of the membership.
- E. Publicity. This committee is responsible for promoting the association and its activities through, but not limited to, brochures, public articles, posters, and Internet lists.
- F. Webmaster. This individual is responsible for maintaining a current website representing the promotion of dairy goats and this associations events and activities. The Webmaster shall prepare and incorporate items of association business and news of the membership and local affiliated clubs. They will work in cooperation with the Ohio Dairy Goat Association and its affiliate association's Webmaster for maintaining current links to the association's site. They shall be responsible for maintaining accurate records of all income and expenditures pertaining to the website and for submitting an itemized accounting to the treasurer prior to each meeting. The executive board shall determine advertising rates and rules. All postings to the site must be kept current within 30 days. Development of the public pages must be approved by the executive board before they are uploaded to the general public. The Webmaster understands that all items pertaining to the website are property of the association, and not the Webmaster as an individual. All passwords and/or other security for said website must be made available to the executive board upon request.
- G. Annual Show. Organizes an annual dairy goat show, when feasible, for the promotion and improvement of the dairy goats in Mid-Ohio. All plans are subject to the approval of the executive board. A budget must be submitted to the membership for approval prior to entering into any contracts.
- H. Annual Clinic. Organizes an annual event for public education on the benefits and values of owning dairy goats. All plans are subject to the approval of the executive board. A budget must be submitted to the membership for approval prior to entering into any contracts for this event.
- I. Fundraising. This committee is in charge of gathering funds for the association for the purpose of conducting educational and promotional activities promoting dairy goats. All plans are subject to the approval of the executive board prior to any fundraising event.
- J. Youth. Provides liaison with all 4-H, FFA or other youth organizations and develops club programs directed towards youth. Solicits youth interested in representing the association as a youth representative for all association's

functions and as a representative of the association to the Ohio Dairy Goat Association Youth Representative Program.

- K. Products and Marketing. Responsible to promote the sale of dairy goat products in the marketplace.
- L. Audit Responsible to audit the financial records annually and other fields, which may be subject to the final authority of the membership.
- M. DHIR/Liasion: This person shall work to keep dairy goat members advised of all changes and rules and shall act as a go between with the state DHI offices. The will also help members in coordinating round robin or one day milk test.
- N. Special Committees. Responsible for any particular projects assigned to them by the President.

Section 2: Any committee appointment may be terminated by he President upon written notice to the appointee; and the President may appoint a successor to those persons whose service has been terminated.

ARTICLE VI: Executive Board

Section 1. The executive board consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer may meet at any time and make decisions under the following guidelines.

- A. A decision must be made immediately and in the best interest of the club and there is not enough time to call a membership meeting or the decision must be made before the next regular membership meeting.
- B. The executive board may make a decision involving money as long as the amount does not exceed \$100.00 or 1/3 of the amount in the Treasury which ever is less.
- C. The executive board may meet to discuss issues, which involve the club and make those recommendations to the club at the next regular membership meeting.
- D. No action of the board can conflict with any action taken by the membership and except in matters placed by the by-laws exclusively under the control of the board, the membership can give the board instructions which it must carry out, and can countermand any action of the board if it is not to late (as it would be, for example, when a contract has already been made).
- E. The personal approval of a purposed action obtained separately by telephone or individual interview can only be considered if all four officers agree. If action is necessary in an emergency, it must be ratified at the next board meeting to become an official act of the board.
- F. A record of the board proceedings shall be kept by the secretary just as in any other assembly; these minutes are accessible only to the members of the board unless the membership gives permission to a member to inspect them or unless the membership by a 2/3 vote orders the board minutes to be read to the membership.

ARTICLE VII: Youth Representative

Section 1: Each year a senior and or junior representative will be selected for MODGA. Independent youth may compete, but must become a member if selected.

Section 2: Criteria: Application, with picture, shall be submitted at the March meeting. The candidate must be a member of MODGA, or willing to become a member, a resident of Ohio, and between the ages of 9 – 21, as of January 1, in the current year. A junior representative to be ages 9 – 15, although to be considered for ODGA junior representative they must be between the ages of 14 and 15 as of January 1st. A parent signature is required for all junior and senior contestants.

Section 3: Applicant may compete more than once in this contest, but may not succeed himself or herself as the Youth representative unless there are no other applicants for that year. Being a single applicant does not guarantee selection, applicants must prove themselves worthy to represent the association.

Section 4: The youth representatives must be able to attend the annual show and the Ohio Dairy Goat Association Conference as a candidate for state youth representative. Attendance expenses (registration/entry fees) are paid by the association. Participation as a MODGA representative in other related youth functions is encouraged, such as, but not limited to: affiliate club shows, clinics, local and state fairs, ODGA Youth Premier Program.

Section 5: Selection Criteria:

- ❖ 35% Dairy Goat Knowledge
- ❖ 35% Participation in dairy goat related work. (4-H, FFA, ODGA, local dairy goat clubs, fairs, shows, state fairs, etc.
- ❖ 30% Personality, poise, enthusiasm and personal appearance

Section 6: Semi-finalist will be selected from all applications received at the March Association meeting. At the April meeting, or Spring Clinic semi-finalist will be interviewed. They will be interviewed by a panel of judges, which will be selected by the current MODGA Youth Committee Chair and the current President. The applicant must have completed all parts of the application including the parent signature. At the conclusion of the April meeting, or spring clinic the finalists and runner-ups will be announced. The Representative's term will run from the time inducted until the following April, at which time they will induct the next year's Representatives.

Section 7: Additional Requirements: Require there be a chaperone with the Youth Representative at all MODGA and ODGA functions.

Section 8: Awards: In addition to registration and entry fee expenses being paid for MODGA's Youth Representative they will receive a sash to wear while attending these and other events.

ARTICLE VIII: Amendments

Section 1: Amendments to this constitution and by-laws may be proposed by the officers or by a written petition addressed to the Secretary and signed by 25% of the membership.

Amendments proposed by such a petition shall be promptly considered by the officers and must be submitted to the membership with the recommendations of the officers by the Secretary for a vote within 90 days of the day when the petition was received by the Secretary.

Section 2: This constitution and by-laws may be amended at any time provided a copy of the proposed amendment and the date of the meeting has been mailed by the Secretary to each active member. The notice shall specify a date of not less than 30 days after the date of the mailing by which date action must be taken of the amendment. A vote of 2/3 of the membership present shall be required to pass any amendment.

ARTICLE IX: Dissolution

Section 1: The association may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than 2/3 of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the association, whether voluntary or involuntary dissolution or by operation of the law, none of the property of the association shall be distributed to any members of the association, but after payment of the debts of the association, its property and assets shall be given to an organization for the benefit of dairy goats selected by the officers at that time.

ARTICLE X: Rules of Order

Section 1. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Revised Edition shall govern this Association in all cases where they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution or By-Laws of this association.

ARTICLE XI: Order of Business

Section 1: At meetings of the association, the order of business so far as the character and nature of the meetings may permit, shall be as follows:

Welcome/Introductions
Call to Order
Roll Call
Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report
Correspondence
Unfinished Business
Committee Reports
New Business
Election of Officers (Annually in October)
Announcements
General Discussion for the good of the Association
Adjournment