

**CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
MISSISSIPPI BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 5207, MISSISSIPPI STATE, MS 39762**

AMENDED November 4, 2000

**ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSES**

- Section 1. The name of this Association shall be the Mississippi Beekeepers' Association.
- Section 2. The purpose of this Association shall be the advancement and protection of the interests of beekeepers commercially, educationally, and socially.
- Section 3. The Executive Committee of this Association as hereinafter provided for, is charged with the duties of carrying out the purposes of the Association and the funds of the Association are pledged for the assistance and protection of the members in every way possible consistent with public policy whenever expenditure thereof is ordered by such committee.

**ARTICLE II. MEMBERS**

- Section 1. Any person interested in beekeeping shall be eligible for membership, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, upon the payment of the annual membership fee, and may continue such membership upon payment of the annual dues hereinafter provided for. Any application for membership may be challenged by any member in good standing, in which case the Executive Committee shall determine the justification of such challenge by holding a hearing attended by a majority of the members of the Executive Committee. A majority vote of the Executive Committee shall accept or reject said challenged application of membership.
- Section 2. Any person may be elected an honorary member of this Association at any annual meeting, and any person elected or who has heretofore been elected an honorary member of the Mississippi Beekeepers' Association, shall be a life member of this Association without obligation to pay dues thereto.
- Section 3. Membership dues in this Association shall be payable at the time of the regular annual business meeting for the next succeeding calendar year in advance, at the rate specified in the accompanying by-laws.

## ARTICLE III. MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings of this Association may be held at such time or times and at such places as may be determined by the Executive Committee. Due and timely notice of the time and place of such meetings shall be given to the members of the Association.

Section 2. The regular annual business meeting of the Mississippi Beekeepers' Association shall be held at such time as the Executive Committee shall determine and shall be held at such place as the Association members may vote at the preceding regular annual business meeting. Quarterly business meetings shall be held on a regional basis at such times and places as determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. At the regular annual business meeting, the officers of the Association and the Executive Committee shall be elected, and standing committees shall be appointed. Unless otherwise ordered by the members, standing committees shall be appointed by the President. And each member shall be entitled to one vote for each officer elected and upon each time of business to be submitted for the consideration of the members.

Section 4. The preparation of programs for the meetings of this Association shall be the duty of the Executive Committee. Any member of the Association may at any meeting bring any matter considered of interest to the members of the Association to their attention by handing a written statement of such matters to the presiding officer, and all of the matters so brought to the attention of the presiding officer shall be brought to the attention of the Association members at some time during said meetings of the Association. Any Association action on such matters of interest may be considered by a motion duly supported.

Section 5. The Executive Committee shall meet at such times and places as the President shall designate by written notice thereof to each member of the Executive Committee, at least two weeks before the time set for such meeting.

## ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and/or Treasurer.

Section 2. The officers of this Association, together with other members as authorized in **ARTICLE V. (1) (A)**, shall constitute an Executive Committee, which shall have such powers and perform such duties as are herein provided.

Section 3. The President, and in his absence a Vice President, shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee, and shall conduct such meetings and perform the duties devolving upon such presiding officer in accordance with the rules of Parliamentary Assemblies as laid down in Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 4. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep a true record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee.

Section 5. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep a correct and detailed account of all monies received by him, from whom, and for what purpose. He shall keep a detailed account of all the disbursements, including the amount and purpose of the disbursements. He shall issue receipts for all monies received, reciting the amounts received and for what, and shall keep a duplicate or stub thereof showing the amount received, from whom and what purpose, and such stub or duplicate shall be submitted to the Auditing Committee for auditing.

Section 6. The officers of this Association shall be allowed their reasonable and necessary traveling expenses, and expenses of caring for the business of this Association other than in attending annual meetings, but shall not be allowed any compensation except that the Executive Committee may allow the Secretary and/or Treasurer such compensation for his service as they may see fit, and allow him such sum for clerk hire as may seem to them reasonable.

## ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

### 1. ELECTIVE

#### A. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary and/or Treasurer, one member of each local association/club or subchapter, and additional at-large members to allow a total of ten (10) members on the Executive Committee. Each local association shall be entitled to have a representative on the Executive Committee and shall elect one person for its membership position on the Executive Committee. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to carry out the purposes of this Association.

### 2. APPOINTIVE

#### A. Nominating Committee

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The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members, one member each from no less than three local associations/clubs or subchapters, and one member-at-large. These appointed members may elect the chairperson for the Nominating Committee, unless such appointment is made by the President. The duties of the Nominating Committee shall be to nominate a slate of candidates for President, Vice President, Secretary and/or Treasurer, and available at-large memberships to the Executive Committee.

#### B. Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee shall consist of five or more members. The duties of the Legislative Committee shall be to represent the interests of the beekeeping industry in all matters of proposed legislation, as instructed by vote of the membership, or by direction of the Executive Committee of

the Mississippi Beekeepers' Association.

### C. Auditing Committee

The Auditing Committee shall consist of three or more members. The duties of the Auditing Committee shall be to audit the accounts of the Treasurer, and submit a report at the regular annual business meeting.

### D. Resolutions Committee

The Resolutions Committee shall consist of three or more members. The duties of the Resolutions Committee shall be to compose resolutions for presentation to the members present at any duly called meeting of the Mississippi Beekeepers' Association. Resolutions so presented shall be voted upon, and if adopted, shall be properly recorded by the Secretary.

### E. Planning Committee

The Planning Committee shall consist of three or more members. The duties of the Planning Committee shall be to consider matters affecting the welfare of the beekeeping industry and make suitable recommendations for action to any duly called meeting of the Mississippi Beekeepers' Association, or of the Executive Committee thereof.

### F. Awards Committee (Adopted November 4, 2000)

The Awards Committee shall consist of no less than three members appointed by the incoming President. A chairperson shall also be appointed at the same time. The members shall not be currently serving on the Executive Committee.

The duties of the Awards Committee shall be to choose recipients of any awards so described in the Constitution/By-Laws of the Mississippi Beekeepers Association. The committee shall be responsible for soliciting nominations, setting deadlines for receiving nominations, reviewing applications for nominations, and preparing the awards for presentation.

## **ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. Before any amendment or change of this Constitution or these by-laws shall be voted upon at any meeting, the membership of this Association shall be given at least one month's notice of time and place of the meeting, and the contemplated changes.

Section 2. This Constitution and By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote cast by members present at any meeting called according to Section 1, ARTICLE III.

## **ARTICLE VII. ELECTION PROCEDURE**

Prior to or at the beginning of the regular annual business meeting, the incoming President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of five members, one member each from no less than three local associations/clubs or subchapters, and no less than one at-large-member. These appointed members may elect the Chairperson for the nominating committee.

The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of nominees as follows: one candidate each for President, Vice-President, Secretary and/or Treasurer, and one candidate for each at-large position available on the Executive Committee, taking into account the number of local associations/clubs to have nominees for membership on the Executive Committee.

Following the report of the Nominating Committee, additional nominations may be accepted from the floor of the business meeting by any member in good standing for President, Vice President, Secretary and/or Treasurer and any at-large position on the Executive Committee.

Persons to hold positions for membership on the Executive Committee to represent a local association/club or subchapter shall be elected by their respective local association/club or subchapter. Each such local association/club shall notify the Executive Committee of the Mississippi Beekeepers' Association prior to the annual business meeting of the name of the person they have elected. Such person must be a member in good standing of the Mississippi Beekeepers' Association before officially serving.

The slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee may be voted upon in whole as presented, provided no additional nominations from the floor are offered.

Vote shall be by voice or a show of hands, unless otherwise designated by the Executive Committee prior to the business meeting.

### **ARTICLE IX. QUORUM**

A quorum for conducting business transactions at an duly called meeting of the Mississippi Beekeepers' Association shall be those members present and in good standing, of which at least two shall be officers.

Two thirds or more members of which at least two shall be officers of the Mississippi Beekeepers' Association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any duly called meeting of the Executive Committee

### **BY-LAWS**

1. The regular order of business for meetings shall be:
  1. Call to order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Reading of the minutes of the previous business meeting, correcting, altering and approving of the same.
  4. Reports of Committees
  5. Treasurer's Report

6. Communications
7. Unfinished Business
8. New Business
9. Committee Appointments
10. Adjournment

2. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern this Association in all points of parliamentary procedure, not provided in this Constitution and the accompanying By-Laws.
3. The membership dues in this Association shall be: \$2.00 Associate, \$5.00 Hobbyist, \$25.00 Commercial per year, payable at the time of the annual meeting, for the next succeeding calendar year in advance.
4. The following two awards "may be" presented each year at the annual convention. (1) A "Master of Beekeeping Award" consisting of an engraved hive tool mounted on a plaque. (2) A "Young Beekeeper of the Year Award" consisting of a plaque and a monetary award of no less than \$100. The membership may change the monetary award by a majority vote at any duly called business meeting. The recipient shall be no older than 25 and must be actively involved in beekeeping activities.

Nominations for both awards must be submitted to the Awards Committee by a local bee association or the MBA Executive Committee. Nominations must be accompanied by a written narrative, which justifies the applicant as deserving of the award.

6. "In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the organization will be turned over to one or more organizations described in sections 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law or (b) A corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Code of 1954 or any other corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law."