

SOUTHEAST ALABAMA BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

BYLAWS

These Bylaws are in the process of being changed as of May 2022

ARTICLE I

NAME, PURPOSE AND LOCATION

The name of this organization shall be the SOUTHEAST ALABAMA BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION (SEABA). It is a non-profit corporation formed under the laws of the State of Alabama, with the purpose to assist and educate beekeepers, to maintain our individual rights as beekeepers, to encourage beekeeping as a hobby and as an industry, to promote natural beekeeping and methods and to create a positive public image of beekeeping. The offices of SEABA shall reside in the City of New Brockton and County of Coffee, in a place designated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. Individuals who are interested in beekeeping and subscribe to the objectives of this organization may join by submitting an application to the Treasurer and paying dues. All members of this Association must have hives (if they have hives in Alabama) registered with the Alabama Department of Agriculture.

Section 2. There shall be one category of Membership in the SEABA as follows:

- **Regular Member** – shall be entitled to all benefits of the Association and voting privileges; a Family may join for the same price as an individual; such Family (immediate) member being entitled to benefits of the Association to include voting privileges. Family Membership will be regarded as Regular Member.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall set the dues for membership annually. Dues shall be due and collected based on the calendar year commencing in January of each year.

Section 4. The current dues structure for membership shall be:

- Regular - \$10/family;

Section 5. Only Regular Members in good standing may vote at any meeting. Members in arrears (dues not paid) for sixty (60) days shall be dropped from the rolls.

ARTICLE III

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the Association and shall be responsible for managing the property of and conducting the business and all other affairs of the Association not delegated to the membership or to committees so authorized by the President or these Bylaws. The Board shall consist of six (6) Directors, such officers being the President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and three (3) At-Large Directors.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting for a term of two years. No member shall be elected to the Board for more than two consecutive terms unless an insufficient number of candidates are nominated.

Section 3. Any vacancy occurring on the Board between Annual Meeting of the Association shall be filled by affirmative vote of the remaining Directors. A Director so selected shall serve until the next Annual Meeting.

Section 4. The Board shall have the power to make rules for its own governance.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once a year. Special Meetings may be called by the President or by any three Directors provided notice is given each other Director at least three days prior to the Special Meeting, its purpose clearly stated and no other business conducted at such meeting.

The President may permit, or not permit, members and others to attend Board meetings as observers or as business may require. A quorum of the Board shall be required to conduct any business of the Association, such quorum being at least four Directors.

Section 6. No Director, Officer, Committee Member, or any volunteer member working on behalf of SEABA shall be held liable for any of their actions excepting gross negligence and shall be indemnified and held harmless from any consequences of their actions.

ARTICLE IV DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at meetings of the Association, coordinate its activities, and perform all duties usually pertaining to this office.

Section 2. In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President. The Vice President shall also serve as the Chair of the Nominating Committee and act as the primary election official, supervising nominations, elections and balloting.

Section 3. The Secretary shall perform such duties as are usual to this office; shall keep the minutes of all proceedings and record the same, maintain historical documents and conduct routine correspondence for the Association.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall take applications for new membership and keep a roster of members; receive all funds of the Association and deposit same in a Joint checking account in a federally insured bank. The Treasurer will disburse funds only as authorized by a majority vote at any meeting of the organization, provided a quorum is present, maintain accurate records of income and disbursements and make these records available to any member on request. The Treasurer shall make an annual report of receipts and disbursements and perform such duties as are usual to this office.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall also be responsible either through its Directors or its Committees or special assignments to publish and mail, or email, to all members, to interact with the media, educators, public officials or the general public to disseminate information on the Association and on beekeeping; to ensure the membership is kept fully informed of legislation affecting beekeepers, of beekeeping techniques, diseases or any scientific or technical matter affecting beekeeping.

Section 6. The Board of Directors shall present to the membership, for its approval, at the first scheduled meeting following the Annual Meeting in January a budget for the upcoming year. Once approved, the Board shall authorize expenditures in accordance with the budget and may exceed budget line items by not more than 10% without approval of the membership. In any case the Board may not expend any funds in excess of \$500 without approval of the membership.

ARTICLE V COMMITTEES

Section 1. At the November organizational meeting the Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominating Committee. Any additional committees appointed shall work under the guidance and direction of, and shall report to, the Board. The Board may accept or reject by a majority vote, those recommendations relative to the direct business responsibilities of the Board. Those recommendations from the Committees which may require a vote of the membership may be accepted or rejected for presentation to the membership by a majority vote of the Board.

Section 2. A Nominating Committee to present a list of candidates for election to office the following year. The Vice President is the Chair of this committee.

ARTICLE VI MEETINGS, PROCEDURES AND QUORUM

Section 1. Meetings shall be held on the first Thursday of the month. The June meeting shall be designated the Annual Meeting, for elections and other business.

Section 2. Special Meetings of the membership may be called by the President or, in his absence, by the Vice President; or upon application of 15% of the members, the President shall call such a meeting. Notice of time, place and purpose of the meeting together with statement of business to be voted upon, shall be given in writing, personally, or mailed, or emailed to each member, not more than 20 days or less than 10 days before the meeting. No other business shall be transacted except that for which the meeting was called or business growing from that meeting.

Section 3. 15% of the membership in good standing, present and in person shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 4. Members in good standing shall be entitled to one vote. Elections shall be by ballot (unless moved and passed by majority vote) and plurality of votes cast shall elect. All other matters shall be by a majority vote of members present in person and voting unless otherwise provided by law or in these Bylaws. For any and all voting, members may vote by only one method: in person at the meeting called for that purpose.

Section 5. Nominations may be made from the floor provided that the nominee is present and consents to the nomination or has given such consent in writing when not present.

Section 6. The calendar year shall be the fiscal year.

ARTICLE VII

Amendment

These Bylaws may be amended at any meeting by a two-thirds vote, a quorum being present, provided notice of such amendments and the nature thereof shall have been mailed to the membership at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting.

ARTICLE VIII

Robert's Rules of Order, as revised, shall govern all proceedings of this Association.