

Temecula Eq-Wine Riders



Temecula Eq-Wine Riders By-Laws

ARTICLE I Name and Purpose

Name

The name of this non-profit organization shall be Temecula Eq-Wine Riders hereinafter referred to as TEWR. The Board of Directors will be referred to as BOD.

Purpose

TEWR has been formed to bring together experienced trail riding horse owners who strive to support, utilize, protect and preserve the equestrian parks and trails of Southern California, specifically Temecula's Wine Country.

TEWR promotes participation and interest in equestrian related activities for social and recreational benefit.

Fundraisers are held to support these goals and donations may be made to further these same causes.

ARTICLE II Membership

All members will have to meet the requirements of the By-Laws to be accepted as members.

- Section 1 Members must be 18 years or older. Club membership is open to owners and riders of all breeds of horses and mules.
- Section 2 Annual dues will cover liability insurance, D&O coverage and other operational costs of the club. The amount charged for dues for the upcoming year will be determined at the January Board of Directors (BOD) Annual meeting.
- Section 3 Members must have current medical insurance and must inform the club in writing if it has leaped
- Section 4 Annual dues are due at the January Membership Ride. Members joining after January 31 will pay the regular annual dues for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- Section 5 Fees for meals, parades and other events will be set for each participating member according to fees charged to the club.

- Section 6 Members delinquent for dues or other fees may not hold office or participate in club activities.
- Section 7 Members may resign from this organization by giving written notice to the BOD. No refunds on dues will be given.
- Section 8 Prospective new members must be sponsored on a club ride by an existing TEWR member having been a member for one year in good standing and ridden on at least two club rides during that year. The sponsor must have ridden with the new rider and vouch for the new rider's ability based on their own personal experience together. The sponsor is not legally responsible for the prospective new members, but must ride with them during the first two club rides and assist them as needed on subsequent rides. The prospective new members must meet all the requirements of the club prior to the ride. Sponsored new riders MUST have their TEWR waivers and a copy of their current medical insurance card turned in to a BOD member and on file with TEWR at least three days before their first ride. The BOD reserves the right to refuse riding privileges with TEWR to any prospective new members.
- Section 9 The following persons shall not be considered a "member" of the club and shall not be permitted to join in any club sponsored ride or event:
(i) anyone who does not have a signed TEWR Release of Liability on file three days before a scheduled ride or event;
(ii) anyone whose medical insurance lapses shall automatically cease membership as of the moment their medical insurance lapses.

ARTICLE III

Meetings

- Section 1 TEWR member general meetings shall be held three times a year at the end of a scheduled trail ride or event.
- Section 2 Twenty-five percent of the membership present at the beginning of the meeting shall constitute a quorum for voting issues.
- Section 3 Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at pre-arranged dates, via group emails or at the call of the President. At all meetings of the Board, a majority shall constitute a quorum. Group email correspondence and participation between the Board of Directors shall constitute a meeting. The Board of Directors will have an annual meeting in January.
- Section 4 Weekly TEWR email newsletters will be sent to all members with updates on important TEWR rides, events and happenings, as well as community equine related information. Members are expected to stay informed. Non-members who request so, may also receive the newsletter as a way to keep informed of TEWR's community involvement/purpose.

ARTICLE IV

Government and Duties of Officers

The governing body of the TEWR will have a unique composition of officers. The offices of Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer may have two people serving in this position. They are required to keep each other informed and vote with one voice.

Section 1-PRESIDENT

The President shall preside over all the meetings of this organization and meetings of the Board of Directors, appoint all committee chairpersons, and shall have general supervision of the affairs of this organization. The President will distribute the weekly TEWR email newsletter to all members. The President shall be responsible to prepare agendas for all meetings. The President has the right to establish committees and appoint their Chairman. Committee Chairmen report directly to the President.

Section 2-VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President during his/her absence, and shall perform other duties at the request of the President. Vacancy in the office of the President shall be filled by the Vice-President. The VP shall inform the liability insurance carrier of planned club activities. This may be done by e-mail or written correspondence.

Section 3-SECRETARY

The Secretary shall record minutes of the Membership and Board meetings, preserve all records, reports, correspondence, and membership lists. In the absence of both the President and Vice-President, the Secretary shall preside over the meeting and verbally appoint a member to record the minutes. Minutes will be returned to the President no later than 1 week after said meetings.

Section 4-TREASURER

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the financial records of the organization, disburse funds as required, prepare report on the financial condition of the organization to present at the January meeting. The

Treasurer shall issue notices of dues payable and be responsible for the collection of dues.

Section 5-**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and additional members chosen from the membership by the board of directors, who shall be called Chairpersons.

Section 6 The Board of Directors shall have control and management of this organization, subject to the will of this organization.

Section 7 The major projects of this organization shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V **Elections**

Section 1 Floor nominations by the Board of Directors (BOD) will be held in November, before the January annual meeting. Voters will consist of the current BOD and chairpersons of TEWR.

Person's being nominated/elected to a Board of Directors position must be in good standing with TEWR for at least 1 year and must have either chaired or co-chaired an event.

Section 2 The term of office for each elected officer shall be two years.

Section 3 The election of officers shall be scheduled for the January regular BOD meeting date. Voting shall be by ballot, with a simple majority vote. Absentee ballots may be turned in to the Secretary before the meeting in a sealed envelope, to be opened and counted with the regular ballots at the time of the election.

Section 4 If an elected officer resigns or is removed from office, the office will be filled by the Board of Directors at its earliest opportunity.

ARTICLE VI **Conduct**

Section 1 Each member upon admission to the TEWR must agree that he/she shall conduct himself in a safe and respectable manner, which will reflect favorably upon the organization. Actions contrary to this can result in suspension and/or termination of membership. All members shall to the best of their ability adhere to all rules and by-laws set forth by the general membership.

Removal from office or from membership – Any officer or member may be removed from office or the organization as a result of failure to fulfill duties of said office or for conduct detrimental to the best interest of the organization.

Section 2

Unacceptable conduct by members or guests may be grounds for ejection from a TEWR function. Such action is not a unilateral burden placed on the event chairperson or trail boss. Ejection from any TEWR event must be approved by any two of the following persons present at the event: Officers, Chairpersons, Trail Bosses or members of the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE VII
FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year shall be from January 1 to December 31. Funds raised by this organization shall be used only for projects consistent with the purposes of this organization as stated in ARTICLE 1.

**ARTICLE VIII
AMENDMENTS**

The By-Laws may be amended by a vote of the Board of Directors as needed.

BY-LAWS APPROVED January 12, 2011

By-LAWS AMENDED AND APPROVED January 15, 2012