

BY-LAWS and RULES and REGULATIONS
of the U.S. HARNESS WRITERS ASSOCIATION

Revised March 2017; (2017) changes underlined

Article I – Organization and Charter Members

The U. S. Harness Writers Association, Inc., was organized on May 8, 1947, with the following charter members:

Mike Lee, Long Island Press, Jamaica NY
Robert Zellner, Newsday, Garden City NY
Murray Janoff, Long Island Press
Edward Binneweg, Long Island Press
Jack Schultz, Newsday
Lou O’Neill, Long Island Press
Ed Comerford, Newsday
Harry Schaefer, Long Island Press
James Kahn, New York Sun
James Snyder, Suffolk Newsday, Garden City NY
Robert Stirrat, Nassau Review-Star, Rockville Center NY
Lou DeFichy, Newsday

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of the U.S. Harness Writers Association shall be to bring about a closer relationship among those who write or broadcast about Standardbred racing and/or breeding; to create a better understanding between its members and the administrative and governing powers of the Standardbred industry; encourage professional standards among its membership; educate its members; and foster a bond of mutual membership in the Association (2011).

Article III – Membership.

Section 1 – There shall be the following classes of membership:

- (a) Active – Any person who is professionally engaged in the writing, photographing, or broadcasting of news or publicity concerning the sport of harness horse racing and Standardbred breeding may become an active member of this Association, whether employed by a Standardbred breeding farm or racetrack, regulatory group or any other Standardbred-related association or institution. Those who are free-lance professionals must provide

evidence of having had their work published or broadcast in the year in which they seek to join. The fitness of an individual to be an active member of this Association shall be determined by the President of the Chapter of which the individual is a prospective member; in the case of At-Large membership, the Secretary shall confirm fitness of Active membership. Active members will receive the Association's newsletter and a lapel pin. Active members pay a \$60 annual fee (2012, 2016).

(i). Retired – Any fifteen-year member of this Association shall, upon attaining the age of 62 years, automatically retain her or his Active Membership without the requirement of payment of national and chapter dues, although they will be encouraged to pay \$15 annually for a National assessment (2012).

(ii). Life – The Board of Directors may, at its discretion, nominate and elect Life members. Life members are entitled to wear a gold membership lapel pin and are exempt from paying national and chapter dues, although they will be encouraged to pay a \$15 annual assessment. (2015)

(b) Associate – Open to all individuals and companies that share the goals of the Association. Associate members may participate in Association and Chapter meetings, but may not vote on questions brought before the Active membership. They will receive the Association's newsletter and a lapel pin. They will pay a \$25 annual fee. Associate members may be elevated to Active membership status if they fulfill the requirements of Active membership and pay the additional \$35 dues (2012, 2016).

(c) Honorary – Any person who does not qualify for regular Active USHWA membership and who contributes to the sport or to the benefit of USHWA may be elected an Honorary Member by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of the vote of the Directors (2012). Nominees for voting shall be put forth by the Chapters and the At-Large Directors. Not more than three honorary members may be so voted in a calendar year. Honorary Members may wear the silver membership pin, but they are not eligible for any voting. (2015)

Section 2 – Chapter Transfer.

Members transferring from one chapter to another require acceptance by the new chapter. Members wishing to leave a chapter but retain membership in USHWA may assume At-Large status (2010).

Section 3 – Suspension.

A member may be suspended for a period of time or expelled by the Chapter of which she or he is a member for cause, such as violation of any of the rules of this Association, or conduct prejudicial to the best interests of this Association. Such expulsion or suspension shall be by a vote of 2/3 of the members of the Chapter after a hearing before said members. A statement of charges against any member shall be mailed to her or him at least ten days before final action is taken (2014). The statement shall be accompanied by notice of the time and place where the hearing will be held, and the member shall have an opportunity to present a defense at the time and place mentioned in said notice. Such action shall be subject to the certification of the Board of Directors of

this Association. The matter of expulsion or suspension of members who do not belong to a certified Chapter shall be considered by the Board of Directors.

Section 4 – Resignation.

Any member may resign by written notice to the National Secretary. The resignation becomes effective thirty days after receipt of the letter.

Section 5 – Hall Of Fame Membership.

USHWA will pay for any NEW member of USHWA to join the Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame (HRMHF) once their initial dues are paid to USHWA. Also, USHWA will refund \$20 of annual dues to any existing member of USHWA who is not currently a member of the HRMHF who joins. This would be a one-time refund. (2017)

Article IV – Chapters.

Section 1 – Any group of not fewer than eight members of this Association may apply to the national Board of Directors for the right to form a local Chapter which shall encompass an area which includes at least one harness track. The Chapter will be granted charter if approved by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors (2012).

Section 2 -- All members of a Chapter must be members of USHWA – penalty is Chapter revocation. A chapter must at no time drop below six members; if after 12 months the Chapter is still below six members, the chapter shall be disbanded and its members placed in the closest appropriate existing chapter, including the at-large chapter if deemed appropriate (2012).

Section 3 – Chapter by-laws shall provide for at least one regular annual meeting plus special meetings and the election of officers.

Section 4 – Each local Chapter shall have the right to assess local Chapter dues in addition to the national dues.

Section 5 – The elected President of each Chapter shall automatically become a member of the National Board of Directors unless already an Officer or Past President. The President will appoint one or two Chapter members not already Directors to serve on the National Board of Directors, as needed (2012). The Chapter's president is empowered to appoint delegates (2010) for Chapter Directors unable to attend national meetings.

Section 6 – The annual Chapter meetings will follow a regular format which shall include:

- (1) The Chapter must notify the National Secretary of the date of its annual meeting so that he may attend.
- (2) Election of officers and National Directors.

- (3) The nominations for the USHWA Living Hall of Fame, Proximity Award and Communicators Corner Hall of Fame, and other such awards as are determined by balloting among members (2004).
- (4) Suggestion for honorary members of National and such other awards and/or special committees.
- (5) Review Chapter membership roster for retired members (2014).

A chapter must hold at least one organized meeting per calendar year, with minutes submitted to the Secretary; if it fails to do so by February 1 of the succeeding year, that chapter shall be disbanded and its members placed in the closest appropriate existing chapter, including the at-large chapter if deemed appropriate (2007).

Article V – Dues.

Section 1 – Dues and the Method of Payment.

The Board of Directors is empowered to reset the amount of dues, and may do so by majority vote at any National meeting (2012).

Section 2 – Schedule for the Payment of Dues.

Dues shall be paid yearly, on a calendar year basis. Dues must be paid, in a manner prescribed by the Treasurer, no later than March 31 in the year they are payable. Any member not having paid by March 31 loses voting privileges for the year even if they rejoin before the ballots are sent out (2012).

Section 3 – Reinstatement Following the Non-Payment of Dues.

If a member fails to pay his dues before October 1 of the year when due, such lapsed memberships may not be restored until the lapsed member reapplies for admission to this Association and pays dues for the current year (2012).

Article VI – Meetings.

Section 1 – Annual Meeting.

The Association will have an annual meeting of both the Board of Directors and the general membership, and the two meetings may, at the discretion of the President, be combined. At each annual meeting, the date and site for the following meeting and awards dinner will be set. Notice of such meeting, signed by the National Secretary, shall be made to the last recorded address of each member at least ninety days (2012) before the date appointed for such meeting. The meeting notice shall include the place, date, time, and purpose of such meeting. In the event of any change of the National Meetings' place and/or dates, notification shall be made immediately (2012).

Section 2 – Special Meetings.

Special meetings of the Association or of the Board of Directors may be called by the National Secretary at the discretion of the President or upon written request of 2/3 of the Directors.

Section 3 – Quorum.

The presence in person of ten Directors shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 4 – Order of Business.

The order of business at all meetings of the Association shall include, but not be limited to:

- Calling the roll.
- Reading the minutes of the previous meeting.
- Communications.
- Election of officers and new members.
- Reports of officers.
- Reports of committees.
- Unfinished business.
- New business.

Section 5 – Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern the Association meetings in all cases where they are applicable and where they are not inconsistent with the bylaws or special rules of this Association.

Article VII – Officers.

Section 1 – Officers

The officers of this Association shall be President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chairman of the Board (2003, 2011).

Beginning with the elections of 2018, the office of Second Vice-President shall be eliminated. The office of First Vice President shall be renamed Vice President. (2017)

Section 2 – Method of Election.

The officers shall be elected at the annual general membership meeting by secret ballot, and a vote of the majority of members present shall be necessary to constitute an election. When no one achieves a majority on the first ballot, only the top two votegetters shall be returned for a subsequent ballot(s). The said officers shall assume their offices the day after the convention (2012).

Section 3 – Duties of Officers.

The duties and powers of the officers of this Association shall be as follows:

President – The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and shall be a member ex-officio with the right to vote on all committees. He shall call special meetings when necessary, and shall appoint all committees except the Hall of Fame Screening Committee (per XII, 1, k) and the Membership and Welfare Committees (per IX, 1) (2012). At the annual meetings of the Association, and other such times as he shall deem proper, he shall also communicate to this Association such matters and make such suggestion as may, in his opinion, tend to promote the prosperity and welfare and increase the usefulness of this Association. He shall perform such duties as are necessary to the office. The elected President will receive \$250 a year.

First Vice-President – In the case of the death of the President or his inability to serve, the First Vice-President shall perform the duties of his office (2012). Position to become known as “Vice-President” after the elections of 2018 (2017).

Second Vice-President – In the event of the death or disability of both the President and First Vice-President, the Second Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President’s office (2012). Position to be dropped after the elections of 2018 (2017).

Secretary – It shall be the duty of the Secretary to give notice and attend all meetings of the Association and to keep a correct record of all the minutes of the proceedings at all meetings. He shall conduct all correspondence and keep a correct record of all activities of the Association for presentation at its annual meeting. He shall notify Officers and members of the Association of their election and notify members of their appointment to any committees. He shall devote his best efforts to forwarding the business and advancing the interest of the Association (2012). In the case of the absence or disability of the Secretary, the President may appoint an Acting Secretary. The elected Secretary will receive \$2600 per year (2012).

Treasurer – The Treasurer shall keep an account of all the monies received and expended for the use of the Association and shall make disbursements. He/she shall deposit all sums received in a bank or banks approved by the elected officers and make a report at the annual meeting or when called upon by the President. All USHWA accounts shall require one signature, that of the Treasurer. The funds, books, and vouchers in his/her hands shall at all times be under the supervision of the President and subject to his/her inspection and other control. At the expiration of the Treasurer’s term of office, he/she shall deliver to his/her successor all pertinent books and files. He/she shall receive \$1000 annual salary, plus expenses. The fiscal year of the Association shall coincide with the calendar year (2013).

Chairman of the Board – The Chairman of the Board shall be the most immediate Past President of the Association. The Chairman is a member of the National Officers and will assist the other officers in the performance of their duties (2012).

Section 4 - All of the officers shall be reimbursed by the Association for expenses, for which itemized receipts will be provided, incurred in discharging their duties (2012).

Bonding was dropped as a result of a vote at the 2017 meetings.

Section 5 – Vacancies.

Vacancies in any office shall be filled as follows: The President may appoint a successor who will serve in that office until the next regular membership meeting of the Association or until a special meeting called to fill the office by an election.

Article VIII – Directors.

Section 1 – Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors of this Association shall be an elected body composed of the National Officers (as defined elsewhere), Active past presidents or Active Life member (as defined below), representatives of each duly-organized Chapter (as defined elsewhere), and At-Large Directors (defined below).

An active past president or active Life member shall be defined as a past president or Life member who has attended two of the last three annual meetings, voted in all balloting unless they are deemed to have a conflict of interest, and served on and be active on at least one committee.

An inactive past president or inactive Life member shall be defined as a past president or life member whom does not meet the requirements of an active past president/Life member described above, and as such shall not have the privileges associated with Board of Directors. They shall, however, enjoy the same privileges and be subject to the same restrictions as any other member (2017).

At-Large Directors: Any At-Large member who does not wish to be considered for Director must contact the National Secretary by November 15 (2015). After that date, the Secretary shall compile a ballot with all eligible At-Large members listed and asking members to vote for two, one, or none of the candidates, distributing it and requiring its return by December 1 (2015). The Directors thus picked will be seated at the next national meeting, and their term shall be January 1 – December 31 (or whenever a run-off election, if a tie, shall be completed).

Section 2 -- The Directors will conduct the business of this Association and shall have the power to make decisions by their majority vote, within the other strictures (by-law changes, honorary member, etc.). Balloting will be conducted by mail between regular meetings when necessary (2012).

Section 3 – One Man, One Vote.

No Director may have more than one vote; no proxy vote shall be accepted (2012).

Article IX – Committees.

Section 1 –Committees – Appointed and Defined (2012).

At that annual meeting after he or she is elected, or as soon thereafter as possible, the President shall appoint committees for the furthering of the Association, with the

exception of the Hall of Fame Screening Committee (XII, 1, i) and these other committees with defined memberships (2012):

- (a) Membership Committee. All applications, whether approved candidates by chapters or at-large candidates (2012), shall be submitted to the Secretary, who will serve as the Membership Committee subject to the ratification of his action on applications by the Board of Directors. A branch of this Committee, the New Membership Committee, comprised of the Secretary and Presidentially-appointed members, will actively seek out new members to join USHWA (2012).
- (b) Welfare Committee. The National Treasurer will serve as Chairman (2012, 2016). Each Chapter President is a member. It is the duty of this committee to investigate and report to the President any applications for relief or assistance. Upon the recommendation from the Welfare Committee, the Board of Directors may by a majority vote authorize monies to be expended for any charitable purpose.

Section 2 – Special Committees.

The President may at any time appoint other committees on any subject for which there are no committees in this Association.

Section 3 – Quorum.

A majority of the members of any committee of this Association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business unless any committee, by a majority vote of its membership, decides otherwise.

Section 4 – Committee Vacancies.

The President shall have power to fill vacancies.

Section 5 – The President shall be an ex-officio voting member of all committees.

Article X – Seal.

Section 1 – USHWA Seal.

The seal of this Association shall be the one adopted and shall contain the legend “U.S. Harness Writers Association.” In addition, the membership may approve such logos as they deem helpful to the public image of the Association.

Article XI – USHWA Hall of Fame.

Section 1 – Rules for Election.

Rules for the election of living persons to the Hall of Fame of the Trotter in Goshen NY by qualified members of the U.S. Harness Writers Association are as follows:

- (a) This Association is authorized to conduct elections each year to select living persons to be enshrined in the Hall of Fame of the Trotter, now known as the Harness Racing Museum and National Hall of Fame (2014).
- (b) Candidates shall be chosen on the basis of ability, integrity, sportsmanship, character and their contributions to harness racing.
- (c) Should a candidate die after being placed on the ballot by the Screening Committee, their name may remain on the ballot for consideration (2005).
- (d) To be eligible, a nominee must have been active in any phase of harness racing sometime after September 1940. Driver and trainer nominees must have at least 15 years of exceptional activity in the sport; for all other activities, the time standard would be at least twenty years.
- (e) To be eligible, a candidate may also be considered, regardless of the above mentioned time requirement, if he or she has shown extraordinary accomplishments in the sport over a reasonable period of time.
- (f) No member of the Hall of Fame Screening Committee shall be nominated to the Living Hall of Fame (2004).
- (g) Elections shall be held in a timely fashion (2003).
- (h) To be eligible to vote, one must be a member of this Association or a member of the Living Hall of Fame (2012). If an Association member, he or she must be an active harness writer who has been a member of USHWA for two full years (2005). Member sports editors are eligible, as are radio and TV sports directors and racetrack publicity directors. The National Secretary shall maintain an alphabetical list of those members of this Association who are eligible to vote in Hall of Fame elections. An USHWA who fails to vote in the Living Hall of Fame election for two straight years shall not be eligible to vote again until he or she is reinstated; those who fail to vote for the two years will receive communication from the Secretary, and to be reinstated one must sign and return the communication (2012).
- (i) Hall of Fame Screening Committee members shall be appointed by the President to a six-year term at a time of vacancy and shall serve this term unless they resign or are incapacitated (2012). The President may, each calendar year (2010), appoint one new member to the Hall of Fame Screening Committee, but not more than two members during a term as President; such appointment would take place after the General Membership meeting. In the event of a vacancy on the Screening Committee, caused by resignation or other circumstance, that occurs after a second presidential appointment but prior to a Hall of Fame Screening Committee meeting, the Officers would choose the replacement candidate for that meeting until the next President takes office (2010). The President cannot appoint himself or herself. Screening Committee members can be reappointed at the end of their term (2003).
- (j) The President shall form a committee with a minimum of five members, "The Hall of Fame Advisory Committee." The purpose of the committee is to guide USHWA voting members of possible Living Hall of Fame honorees. The committee shall form a listing of (20) candidates based

upon the criteria outlined elsewhere in Article XII. It will be the committee's responsibility to assemble biographies of each candidate of between 350-700 words. Once the list has been established, a new name(s) can only be added to the list following a listee's election, death or inability to pass the screening committee. A person may be included on the list for only 10 years, at which time that person shall be moved from the list; said person(s) can be relisted by the committee.

The committee shall have its list and biographies prepared and ready for distribution by April 1 each year. The Hall of Fame Screening Committee shall review all candidates before being submitted to the voters. Following the review of the Screening committee, Chapters and At-Large Directors shall receive the list and biographies no later than May 1.

The Hall of Fame Advisory Committee shall act independently of the Hall of Fame Screening Committee and no person shall be a member of both committees.

- (k) Nominations to the USHWA Living Hall of Fame shall be made through the Chapters and through the At-Large Directors on or before June 1 of each year. The Chapters and At-Large Directors shall make no more than (2) nominations in a year from the Advisory Committee list; provided, however, a Chapter and At-Large Directors may add a third name not on the Advisory Committee list so long as such person meets all other criteria and the inclusion is accompanied by a biography of equal quality and length of the other nominees.

The National Secretary shall send a ballot listing the nominees and including brief biographical information to the eligible voting members. The member shall mark the ballot in the affirmative, negative, or abstain for each candidate, sign the ballot and return it to the duly-authorized tabulating representative within the period prescribed for voting (2006). The secretary shall preserve the integrity of secret balloting (2005). The confidential nature of the ballot refers ONLY to the content of the ballot, and not the participatory act of voting. The membership voting participation record shall be open to the officers of USHWA for the purposes of: a) determining that the association's members are taking an active role in the most important task that the organization is charged with, and b) for maintaining and monitoring an official record of the eligibility of voters (2014). Any candidate receiving 75% of the yes-no ballots cast shall be elected to the USHWA Living Hall of Fame.

Section 2 – USHWA Hall of Fame, Veterans Category.

Because the purpose of the USHWA Hall of Fame is to honor participants in the sport who have made, throughout their careers, outstanding contributions to the sport, and because some deserving of the honor may have been overlooked by either not being nominated or by not being elected, the Veterans Category will honor those who deserve consideration. The Veterans Category will be established in 2015, and will be open for nominations from there on every three years.

(a) Nominees must be 70 years or older, and have been active in the sport for at least 25 years. Any person nominated but passes away prior to consideration, shall still be considered a candidate.

(b) Nominees must meet all criteria set forth for USHWA Hall of Fame nominees in USHWA award rules.

(c) Each Chapter and the At-Large membership shall make no more than one (1) Veterans Category nomination in any year in which the Veterans Category is open. (2017)

(d) Nominees in the Veterans Category shall be discussed by the USHWA Hall of Fame Screening Committee at the same time when meeting for the USHWA Hall of Fame nominees. The Screening Committee shall vote on Veterans Category nominees and have the authority to approve no more than one for induction into the Hall of Fame. (2015)

Section 3 – USHWA Communicators Hall of Fame (2014).

The Association, in cooperation with the Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame in Goshen NY, has established at that museum a Communicators Hall of Fame (2014) where outstanding communicators in harness racing and standardbred breeding will be honored (2004).

(a) The Association is authorized to conduct elections each year.

(b) To be eligible, a living nominee must have been active in communications about harness racing for at least 20 years. A nominee who is deceased must have been active in harness racing for an extended period of time (2003).

(c) Elections will be held in a timely fashion (2003).

(d) Senior Communicators category eliminated at the February 2010 National Meeting. (2015)

(e) Nominations shall be made by the Chapters and at-large members and submitted to the National Secretary at least 30 days before the date of the annual meeting (2005). Each Chapter shall make no more than two (2) nominations in one year (2010). Biographies of between 350 and 700 words must accompany each nomination by the due date, or the nomination will not be accepted (2012).

(f) All biographies of the nominees will then be sent to all past presidents and the current officers (2016), who will rank their top five candidates in order of preference. A point system of 10-5-3-2-1 shall be used and the top five in the point standings shall advance to the ballot that will be presented at the annual meeting during the Directors session. If there is a tie for fifth, then all those names shall advance. All names that advance will be listed alphabetically and not in order of the point standings, which shall remain undisclosed except for the secretary and any other person involved in the tabulation. If the name of the secretary is presented as one of the nominees, then the president shall designate another person to do the tabulation. If there are no more than five original nominees, then all shall advance directly to the annual meeting during the Directors session for voting. (2015)

(g) Those top five nominees will be discussed in unison at the annual meeting during the Directors session, wherein the Directors shall select no more than

two nominees by secret ballot, in like fashion as the Chapter nominations. In the event of a tie that would lead to more than two nominees, those names shall be returned for subsequent ballots. The nominees will then be voted on via mail. To be elected a nominee must receive 75 percent of the yes-no membership vote for the Communicators Hall of Fame. (2015)

Article XII – “Dan Patch Awards.”

Section 1 -- The awards given by USHWA at its annual banquet shall be collectively known as The Dan Patch Awards, including the human along with the equine, to “brand” that name and associate it with USHWA in the public mind, and to further establish USHWA as being associated with harness racing excellence (2012).

Section 2 – Dan Patch Horse Awards

For all Dan Patch Horse Awards, including the twelve divisional winners, Trotter of the Year, Pacer of the Year, and the E. Roland Harriman Harness Horse of the Year, the voting shall be conducted as outlined in USHWA’s R&Rs, Awards, #6. Winners for each of the aforementioned Dan Patch awards shall be announced as winners of said award, and results distributed to the Associated Press and national media by USTA/HRC no later than 3pm on the afternoon of the date that the voting ends.

Article XIII – Integrity Committee Receives Nominations Before Any Voting

All nominees and finalists of any kind shall be first sent to the Integrity Committee for consideration. This shall occur prior to any other vote or procedure. (2015)

Article XIV – Amendments.

Section 1 – How To Amend.

- (a) These bylaws may be amended, repealed or altered in whole or in part by a 2/3 vote of the Directors present at an annual meeting of the Association, provided the proposed change(s) has been submitted in writing to the President and Secretary at least 30 days before the date of the meeting at which the change is to be considered.
- (b) These bylaw change proposals shall include the articles, sections, and subsections affected by the proposal, along with alterations in other existing bylaws that would result from the proposal’s passage. (2017)

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Board of Directors, from time to time, shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations that are not inconsistent with the bylaws of this Association. The Board of Directors, from time to time, shall determine appropriate awards to be made by the Association.

These rules and regulations, which are not part of the bylaws, and are here organized by these two major categories, include the following:

USHWA OPERATIONS

1. Any monies received due USHWA must be deposited in the USHWA bank account within 14 days of receipt. (2016)
2. Insignia. Racetracks will be encouraged to extend press privileges, particularly for parking and admission, to all members of the Association who display the membership lapel pin.
3. Replacement Pins. Members losing their membership pins may have them replaced for \$10.

~~Past Presidents.~~ Dropped as result of voting at 2017 meetings.

4. Directors Reimbursements. Starting in 2018, all members of the national Board of Directors (Officers, Active Past Presidents/Life members, Chapter Representatives as described in Article IV, Chapters, Section 5 and At Large Directors) will be eligible to receive reimbursement to the annual meeting as follows:

Travel– Members eligible for reimbursement of travel shall use the most cost effective way of transportation to the annual meetings unless otherwise approved by the Officers. Actual expenditures in an amount to be capped at \$650. This amount shall include airfare, transportation to and from the airport and their residence, parking at the airport and transportation to and from the arriving airport and the meeting hotel or if driving, round trip mileage plus tolls from their residence to the meeting hotel. The rate of auto mileage reimbursement shall be at the IRS-determined mileage rate. All requests for reimbursement must accompany qualifying receipts and proof of mileage. In the case of those that drive, USHWA shall not pay the cost of overnight hotel (s) while traveling to the meeting.

Hotel -- Past Presidents will be reimbursed for two nights' lodging. National Officers, because they meet the day before the National meetings, will be reimbursed for three nights' lodging.

Travel and Hotel Misc.

In the event that anyone has received reimbursement to attend the annual meeting and subsequently does not attend, it will be their responsibility to reimburse national USHWA in full.

Members qualified for Hotel benefits who choose to share accommodations shall not qualify for more benefits than if they did not share accommodations.

Nothing herein shall preclude the Officers from making exceptions on a case by case basis at their discretion.

5. Free Dinner Tickets.

(a) A maximum of two tickets to the annual awards dinner will be given at no charge to attending Life Members, Past Presidents, National Officers, and Dinner Committee Members. In case of “overlap,” no one person shall receive more than two tickets (2012).

(b) USHWA Member-Priced Tickets – Members of USHWA shall be entitled to reduced-priced tickets – cost established each year -- to the annual banquet for themselves and one other person, provided that those members purchase the tickets themselves. If any employer or organization purchases the tickets on behalf of the member, they shall be charged the full price for any and all tickets. (2017)

6. Voting: ANY Chapter Director, Chapter Delegate, National Officer or Past President who has failed to participate in the voting for the horse Dan Patch awards in the most recent TWO YEARS of elections shall NOT be compensated for any expenses paid, or be eligible for reimbursement for expenses incurred, by virtue of their attendance at the annual meeting. Directors, delegates, officers, or past presidents that fall into this “non-voting” category (as outlined in R&R awards, 6) are nevertheless encouraged to attend and participate in the annual meetings; however, said individual will be personally responsible for any and all costs associated with their attendance (2014).

7. The Journal Chairman shall be eligible for either a stipend or for commission, but not both. (2015)

8. Officers shall determine prices, annual dinner retail ticket price, journal ad retail prices, sponsorship menu and set-offs (tickets, ads, USHWA paid table gifts), next annual dinner venue, and budget for all other events and participations, and shall have right of annual budget approval (to be approved not later than December 1 of the year prior to start of the budget). USHWA fiscal year is same as the calendar year. Officers shall seek input and advice from appropriate committees in making decisions noted above.

9. Website development. The President and Executive Committee shall determine, with input from applicable committee, the timing and extent of investment in the USHWA website to enhance its capabilities that may include support of video streaming, posting to USHWA members work product, support of merchant transactions for sale of merchandise, artwork, tickets and other related retail products, support of online auction of products authorized by USHWA and secured member access to various materials that may be stored on such website. Such website development investments by USHWA shall be included in the annual budget. (2017)

10. Only USHWA Screening Committee members shall be reimbursed for meeting during the Grand Circuit meeting at Goshen Historic Track, upon submission of expense report and receipts. Hotel reimbursement shall be for one night. (2017)

11. Contributions. The major focus of charitable contributions by the United States Harness Writers Association (USHWA) shall be awarded to non-profit organizations that provide for the historical preservation and/or positive promotion of Harness Racing, and/or strive to provide benefit or relief to the health and welfare of its human and equine participants.

The primary beneficiary of USHWA-sponsored funds shall be the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame, which honors and houses the organization’s two major reasons for being: the honorees of the Harness Racing Hall of Fame and the Communicators Hall

of Fame. Said donation will be granted annually at the Hall of Fame induction ceremony in Goshen, NY in the sum of not less than \$5,000.

For all other monetary requests throughout each calendar year, the National Officers must be provided ten (10) days' notice to review and subsequently vote upon said requests for outgoing donations, with any ties or draws then being voted on by the Past Presidents. (2017)

12. Income Tax Exemption Number 11-6034843. Official notification dated 9-25-64, by U.S. Treasury Department, I.R.S., Brooklyn NY, signed Thomas E. Scanlon, District Director.

USHWA AWARDS

1. The entire USHWA active membership will vote on the winners of human awards (2008, 2012) and the broodmare categories. If a candidate receives nomination by all participating Chapters, or has no rival as presented by the Broodmares/Breeder Committee, the single candidate will be considered the winner. (2015)
2. All notices of deadlines for initial USHWA award nominations to be submitted shall be sent by the secretary to the chapter officers no less than 14 days before such deadline (2016).
3. Chapter biographies for Proximity nominees shall be between 250 and 500 words; for all other awards, 100 to 300 words. No chapter may make more than one nomination for nominated awards in any but the Hall of Fame nominations (see Article XII). A nomination not accompanied by a biography of the prescribed length by the due date will not be included for national consideration (2012).
4. If the Integrity Committee, which has disqualification authority over all USHWA nominees and whose decisions cannot be appealed, decides that a ballot candidate does not fit the assigned classification at any point before the balloting is completed, the President shall order that that nomination be withdrawn from the ballot, and those who had voted for the ineligible nomination shall be asked to recast their vote for one of the remaining nominees in the category (2012).
5. (a) If there are more than three nominees from chapters in any award category (except as provided for the Hall of Fame and Bergstein Proximity sections), there shall be a vote by the Past Presidents and current officers (2016), who must select three candidates per category (2016), and only the highest three votegetters from this balloting will be official final nominees. Voting shall be done by ranking their top three candidates in order of preference, using a point system of 10-5-3 (2017). In the case of a tie or ties resulting in four or more candidates, the Past Presidents and current officers shall vote again for only those involved candidates top determine the three finalists (2013, 2016, 2017).
 - (b) In all elections requiring the voting of directors (2017) via email or regular mail, all emails shall be accompanied by a receipt tag by the secretary, so as to ensure the email was received. Three days prior to the close of such voting, the secretary shall send out a second email to any past president or director who did not return a received receipt, and then two days prior to the voting the secretary shall contact any director or past president who did not return a received receipt to ensure it had been properly sent and delivered. (2015)

6. E. Roland Harriman Harness Horse of the Year Trophy (2008). Balloting, including divisional winners, Trotter and Pacer of the Year, and Harness Horse of the Year, will be conducted among members of this association and the American Harness Racing Secretaries. The voting shall be conducted and tabulated by the Publicity Department of the U. S. Trotting Association. Anyone who does not vote in this balloting for two consecutive years shall be dropped from the list of voters, which shall be maintained by USHWA. (2016) They may be reinstated through a written request to the USHWA National Secretary.

7. Stan Bergstein (2012) Proximity Award. This award shall be presented annually to an individual, group or organization for outstanding contributions to harness racing. Chapters will consider deserving candidates at their annual meetings and forward a nomination and biography to the National Secretary; from them, Directors must (2016) select three (2016) finalists by a vote. All finalists must receive a vote on at least 30% of the ballots cast. (2016) These finalists shall be put to vote among the Association membership, who shall select the winner (2012).

8. Norman Woolworth Owner of the Year (2008).

9. Glen Garnsey Trainer of the Year Award (2008).

10. Driver of the Year.

11. Rising Star Award, to an outstanding young trainer and/or driver aged 35 or younger for early career achievements (2009).

12. Lew Barasch Breakthrough Award, which will honor a non-trainer/driver aged 35 or younger for early career accomplishments (2009).

13. W.R. Haughton (formerly Clem McCarthy) Good Guy Award. This award will go to a person in the sport who is deemed cooperative with the media and who, in personality, closely exemplifies the best characteristics of the late William Haughton. She or he shall be a person whose conduct reflects credit on the sport and on himself. No racetrack, horse, publicist, newspaper or radio-TV staffer shall be eligible, nor shall any USHWA or anyone eligible to become an USHWA (2012); however, former or retired publicity and media persons may be considered.

14. LeeAnne Pooler Unsung Hero Award, given annually to an individual or group who has labored, largely without recognition, for the good of standardbred racing and/or breeding (2008). No member of USHWA shall be eligible (2010).

15. The January Davies Humanitarian Award, to be given to an individual or a group who has strong connections to harness racing (2008) for their works outside the harness racing industry (2010), may be given after nomination solicitation by and subsequent approval of a nomination by the Officers and permanent award conferee Callie Davies-Gooch (2008, 2012).

16. Broodmares of the Year / Breeder of the Year (2012) – A committee shall be appointed by the President for nominations for such awards as determined by specific criteria, and then the membership shall determine the winners among those candidates (2007).

17. John Hervey Awards; Broadcasters Awards; George Smallsreed Awards (sometimes commonly lumped together as “the Herveys,” as below) -- The Association will recognize excellence in writing, broadcasting, and photography, and will honor the winners at its annual Awards Banquet (2007). All members of the “Hervey Committee” shall be ineligible to enter or win a “Hervey Award” (2007).

18. Alan Prince (2011) (formerly Bob Zellner) USHWA of the Year, the Association honoring one of its own for outstanding dedication and service to USHWA. The recipient shall be chosen by a committee appointed by the President.

19. Caretaker of the Year Award, with USHWA handling the selection process for the award's sponsor, the Northfield Hard Rock Rocksin. To be given to an outstanding caretaker, through a public solicitation of nominations by USHWA, who shall form a committee of judges who are both USHWAs and ex-caretakers to determine the winner. (2016)

20. Leading Dashwinning Driver Award. (2016)

21. President's Awards. The President may, at her or his discretion, authorize special awards where such recognition is in the best interest of harness racing and this Association.

22. Discontinued Awards – Headliner Award, Jack Schultz Memorial Trophy for top UDR driver with 500+ starts, National Armstrong Award for top driving winning percentage with 150+ starts, Peter Haughton Memorial Award. The Secretary will maintain an historical record of these award winners.