

Flint River Horseman's Association

A Member of the Georgia Federation of Saddle clubs

Website:

<https://www.flintriverhorsemansassociation.com/>

By laws

Updated September 10, 2023

The Association's Motto Shall Be:

“Does it square with what's right and fair?”.

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Chapter 1 Operational Rules

Article 1

Purpose & Naming

Section 1: To provide horsemen within a 50 mile plus or minus radius of Griffin, Georgia, an equal opportunity to exhibit and participate in competitive events with their horses at both local and state level, and to provide recognition for these participants.

Section 2: The organization shall be known as the Flint River Horseman's Association.

Section 3: The headquarters of the Association shall be at the location of the president, Or as designated by the directors at the annual organizational meeting.

Section 4: The Association, operated within 50 -miles radius of griffin . is dedicated to promoting horse shows and related activities, and is an non-profit organization located in the state of georgia.

Section 5: In the event the Association is dissolved and after discharge of its liabilities, the remaining assets shall be given to a horse related charitable organization.

Article 2

Membership

Section 1: Membership shall be open to new members. Membership is \$25 per Family (living in the same household) and \$15 for single membership. Dues are payable at the first show attended that show season.

Amended on 09/10/2023 to add Each membership will be limited to 2 Adults over the age or 21.

Section 2: You can sign up for both running and Pleasure membership for an additional \$5. You may vote on both running and pleasure proposals.

Article 3

Officer & Directors

- See Addendum A list of the current Officers which will be updated yearly

Section 1 : Officers shall be President(s)- may have one for Pleasure and one for Running, Vice- President(s), Treasurer, and Parliamentarian. These officers may be the Board of Directors unless a board is selected, have voting rights, as well as their defined duties described in Article 5.

Section 2: The officers shall serve for 12-month terms, from the start of New Business at the first meeting in September of each year.

Section 3: The President shall appoint an audit committee, if deemed necessary, consisting of three members in good standing who shall audit and clear all financial records of the Association and the Committee Chairman shall report to the full membership at the first meeting in September.

Section 4: No member of the Association shall be eligible for election to the Board of Directors, unless such person be eighteen (18) years of age or over and shall have been a member of FRHA in good standing for a period of one year.

Section 5: The President(s), Vice- President(s), Treasurer, and Parliamentarian shall be elected at the August meeting each year preceding the official date for taking office.

Section 6: The retiring President of the Association shall automatically become an additional member of the Board with the power to break ties, if necessary, for a term of as many years as his successor serves as President. The past President shall also serve as one of the two delegates to all official Georgia State Federation meetings if deemed necessary by Board Members.

- A.** Amendment approved 10-15-18- If the Retiring/past President resigns

Before the end of their term, They waive their right to the above By-law

Section 7: The Treasurer of Flint Rivers Horseman's Association must be bonded to ensure that funds are appropriately used.

Section 8: Each Board member shall be represented at all Association meetings, scheduled

Article 4

Elections or Officers

Section 1: All officers will be elected at the August meeting each year. All officers have a one-year term and shall assume office at the beginning of New Business at the September meeting. The President(s) will appoint the Secretary and Point's Keeper for their term.

Article 5

Duties of Officers

Section 1: The President(s) shall perform duties customary to the office, preside over all meetings of the Association, may be on the Board of Directors, shall appoint all committees, and shall be chairman, ex-officio chairman, or a member of all committees.

Section 2: The Vice- President shall have all the powers of the President in the absence of the President.

Section 3: The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all proceedings, record the same, and keep records of those that are available when needed or asked for. He/she shall perform such duties of the office as may be required, maintain current roster of all officers of the member clubs, to include: addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mails, discharge any other secretarial duties as directed by the President and the Board of Directors, maintain records, reports, and correspondence for informing Association as needed. The officer will also make show sheets available to member, upon proper advance notice, and will provide a show packet to all members. Additional mailings/e-mails may be sent out when the President and Secretary jointly deem it appropriate.

Section 4: The Treasurer shall receive all monies due to the Association, disburse the same only on itemized demands and upon the order of the President(s) or Board of Directors, and shall account for all monies received and disbursed at each monthly meeting.

Section 5: The duty of the Parliamentarian is to see that Robert's Rules of Order are followed at the meetings

Section 6: The year FRHA hosts the State Show, we will have a President and Secretary for the Association and a separate President and Secretary for the Federation. If the Association/Board of Directors deem it necessary.

Section 7: The point keeper(s) position will be appointed by the President of the Association and audited by the Board of Directors as necessary.

Article 6

Meeting

Section 1: Regular meetings of the Flint River Horseman's Association shall be held , without written notice, at such places as the Officers or Board of Directors may from time to time designate.

- A. Amendment approved August 2, 2020- Meetings will be held as needed.
There will be an August meeting to elect new officers.

Section 2: The Officers and/or Board of Directors shall have the option of changing date and place for the monthly meeting.

Section 3: A majority vote of the official delegates present from members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

- A. The Officers and/or Board of Directors will have the voting rights and
Will include the delegate members,

Article 7

Amendments

Section 1: Any Proposed changes to these By-Laws shall be delivered by the Secretary of the Association to each board member at least one month prior to the next meeting at which it will be considered at the next meeting thereafter. A majority vote will be required to enact the proposed changes. The approved Amendments will then be updated in the By-Laws.

- A. If an Emergency issue arises which needs to be voted on earlier, and all
Officers and board members are present and then the vote can be conducted.

Article 8

Parliamentary Procedure

Section 1: Robert's rule of order shall be the parliamentary authority of all matters not covered by the constitution of the By-Laws.

Article 9

Expenses

Section 1: All expenses of the Association must be approved for payment by the Board of Directors above the amount of fifty dollars (\$50.00)

Section 2: At the Georgia State Federation Show the president of the FRHA will have one stall provided and paid for by FRHA. If the president does not need a stall, one will not be provided.

Article 10

Conduct

Section 1: Any exhibitor, after thorough investigation and notification in writing, receiving two or more just complaints against him/her by two or more members shall be disciplined accordingly by the Board of Directors of this Association. No action resulting in loss of points or disqualification may be taken without the sanction of the FRHA Board of Directors. Any such motion must be brought to the attention of a representative of the Board at the show and then taken to the Board of Directors.

- A.** Any exhibitor, after thorough investigation and notification in writing, receiving two or more just complaints against him/her by two or more members shall be disciplined accordingly by the Board of Directors of this Association. No action resulting in loss of points or disqualification may be taken without the sanction of the FRHA Board of Directors. Any such motion must be brought to the attention of a representative of the Board at the show and then taken to the Board of Directors.

- First Offense will be a warning whether oral or written
- Second Offense you will lose points for that show and will be asked to leave the show (if at the show event)
- Third Offense will be loss of membership for 1 Year, after that time you will have to be voted back in by the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Any person(s) who initiates or participates in any form of verbal or physical abuse of the show officials will be disqualified and must leave the show grounds. All points earned at this show, prior to the incident, will be forfeited and no entry fees refunded.

Section 3: No alcoholic beverages are allowed within 50 feet of the arena.

Section 4: The use of any electrical shocking device or anything used to alter the performance of the horse in any way will not be allowed. Such practices shall result in disqualification in that class, no points given and no entry fees refunded.

Section 5: Any debt concerning FRHA must be paid in full before that person is eligible to participate in any FRHA activity. Any person having debt with FRHA cannot go to State or receive year-end awards.

Section 6: All dogs must be on leashes at all FRHA events.

Section 7: NSF Checks- Any person or organization that has a check that is returned to FRHA due to NSF (non-sufficient funds) will be fined \$28.00 for the first offense. The second offense they will be fined \$50 and that person or organization will be on a CASH ONLY basis with FRHA.

Section 8: Under no circumstances are parents/concerned parties/ friends ever allowed to approach a judge or the office crew regarding events. All concerns should first be addressed with the President(s) of FRHA.

Article 11

Silver Jamboree

Section 1: The Silver Jamboree is an FRHA fundraiser, but is also a qualifying point show. It is organized by the FRHA Board and all members of FRHA will be required to work the required hour like any other show, if present.

Section 2: The qualifying year shall begin upon completion of the State Show. The Silver Jamboree shall be scheduled no earlier than March 1st and no later than the last weekend in March.

Section 3: Points earned at the Silver Jamboree count toward State Federation Qualifying and year-end awards.

Article 12

State Qualifying & Year-End Show

Section 1: FRHA qualifying shows can be held after the State show through the weekend before Thanksgiving. Shows will not resume before March 1. Entry fees and percentage of payback will be determined by FRHA. All show money collected will go to FRHA for the purpose of year end awards and any items that need to be purchased through the year. There will be at least 6 shows per season with one of the shows being the Silver Jamboree. All six shows will have Pleasure and Speed events. FRHA does have the opportunity to have additional qualifying shows or Jackpots for fundraising purposes if approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 2: A show location (arena) cannot be changed within (2) weeks of the announced show date. The FRHA secretary or Board Member must contact all FRHA members by email, website, or Social Media post about the change of show

Section 3: Programs for qualifying/year-end award point shows must include: Classes offered, Cost of Classes (Regular, Lead Line, and Exhibition), Order of events, Coggins requirements, Age requirements, and legal warnings. (1) Sign-up sheets constitute a program. (2) Five entries constitute a payback class; one entry constitutes having a class.

Section 4: To qualify for the Georgia State Federation Horse Show and/or FRHA year-end awards, you must have the most points in your class accumulated at the qualifying/year end award shows. You must have shown in at least 50% of the qualifying/year-end award shows to qualify for state show and 75% of the class/shows to qualify for the year-end awards. Number of participants qualifying for the Georgia Federation Horse Show per class will be limited to comply with Georgia State Federation Rules. In a case of a tie, the following system will be used to declare the winner: (1) ribbon seniority. (2) most shows attended in that class, and (3) ride off or coin flip. Qualified riders for the State Show will be announced with in ten (10) days of the last qualifying/year-end award show either by hand delivery or mail/e-mail. Each FRHA member over 17 years of age (if under 17, must have a representative work for them) that qualifies and attends the State Show, must work at the State Show, during our required work time, to be eligible for a year-end award from the Association. The name must be on the sign-up poster and verified to be given credit. There are times that we have workers available that you can pay to work your time slot, if we do it will be e-mailed out with name and phone number of those contacts.

Section 5: In order to qualify for the FRHA year-end awards, a member must have worked ONE HOUR at each FRHA qualifying show that they attend. This must be documented by signing the work sheet after said member is finished with their hour. It is the responsibility of the points keeper to certify that each member has met this requirement. The Exhibitor must be a paid member in good standing of the Association. You must be at least 17 years old to work, if you are under 17 years old you must have a representative work for you, and they will need to mark on the work sheet who they are working for.

Section 6: The rules of FRHA shall govern at all Qualifying/ Year-end award shows. AQHA rules shall apply when FRHA has no rule for that situation with the exception of barrels- metal barrels are not required. If the need arises or a rule is not covered by FRHA or AQHA rules, then the use of Federation State Show rules shall apply.

Section 7: All riders in all events must have appropriate attire; hats or long sleeves are not required in timed events. Shirts without sleeves and tank tops under 3 fingers lengths are not allowed. Riders should remember that Georgia Federation of Saddle Club rules must be followed at the state show. Any deviation on this rule will be at the judge's discretion for Pleasure events.

Section 8: Before entering a class, each exhibitor shall see that his/her name, and whether or not he/she is showing for points is correctly and properly recorded on the official entry sheet. It shall be the exhibitor's sole responsibility to see that he/she is properly entered in each class for which he/she wishes to receive points.

Section 9: Awarding of Judged events and Timed events point at each State qualifying/year-end show will be as following, regardless of the number of entries in the class:

1 st Place = 8 Points	5 th Place = 4 Points
2 nd Place = 7 Points	6 th Place = 3 Points
3 rd Place = 6 Points	7 th Place = 2 Points
4 th Place = 5 Points	8 th Place = 1 Point

Section 10: All Qualifying/ Year-End award point show shall include the complete list of classes offered at the State Federation Show.

Section 11: The age of the rider and the class they are required to show in will be determined as of the age they are January 1st of that state show year. (ex: if the rider is 12 on December 20th, 2018 but turns 13 before January 1, 2019, they must ride in the 13-19 age group since the State Show for that year will be September 1, 2019)

Section 12: A horse may be shown only once in each class. Halter horses may compete in their age group or sex group for Year-End awards. A horse may be ridden for exhibition only by any rider at the end of the 39 & Over class of that event, without a drag.

Section 13: Ponies are to be 50" and under and shall be measured and certified prior to showing at their first class of the Qualifying/ Year- End award year. Once approved by the Board of Directors it is eligible to show in all FRHA events for that show year. Ponies will also have an official measuring at the state show by the hosting club during specific times. The ponies will be painted once the official measuring is done at the state show.

Section 14: There will be at least six qualifying shows each season with payback in speed classes only, excluding the Silver Jamboree (First Place in all events will receive a bucket)

Section 15: If you do not work at State, or have someone work your time slot, you will not be allowed to receive year-end awards at the next FRHA banquet if you qualified to receive them.

Section 16: If you are riding/showing for points you must join at the first qualifying show that you participate in.

Section 17: Order of classes for Qualifying/ Year-End award shows are online at www.flintriverhorsemanassociation.com, and also on the show sheets that are provided at each show. Qualifying classes can be added or taken off the show sheet, if they are approved by the Federation Board during the yearly rule proposal meeting.

Section 18: The show will be stopped for hazardous conditions, such as heavy rain or lightning. When the need to cancel or postpone a Qualifying show arises during the show due to bad weather, lightning, etc., the vote of the Board of Directors will decide whether to cancel or complete said show.

Section 19: For the purpose of Year End High Points Awards Program, the year will begin on the first Saturday (in September) after the state show and end on June 30th.

Section 20: Open classes are open to anyone regardless of age. However, persons may show for points in only one age division, but may ride in other classes for payback.

Section 21: A class will be closed when the first rider has entered and/or crossed the timer for that class. No changes will be allowed to the class sheet, unless it is the mistake of the entry booth personnel.

Section 22: No one under 17 years of age may announce at Qualifying shows unless they adhere to the following:

- They must have approval of an FRHA officer.
- With the exception of a person to write down times, no other minors may be in the announcer's booth.
- The first time a minor announces at a Qualifying show, they must do so in the presence of an officer who will provide proper coaching.

Section 23: To qualify for Year End Award, you must participate in at least 75% of that class at the scheduled Qualifying shows.

Section 24: No exhibitor may be tied, buckled, or fastened in the saddle by any means on the show grounds. Not complying with this rule will mean disqualification in that class, no points given, and no entry fees refunded. Rubber bands are allowed with no restrictions on the size, number of bands, or how many times they can be wrapped. The Magic Seat is an acceptable device at all FRHA shows.

Section 25: If you are 17 years or older and riding/showing at a qualifying show, you must work an hour at the show or have someone work an hour for you. If 16 or under you must have a representative work for you. If your hour is not worked then you will not receive year-end awards or receive points for that show.

A. Amendment to add to this rule as of October 12, 2022: If A membership has Two or more members riding, they must work one hour per person riding with a maximum of 2 hours per membership. A Work schedule will be sent out Monday before each show for members to sign up for their work position. All positions are first come first serve bases. If the person working for a member that is riding, they shall name who they are working for. If not, that member/rider's time may be forfeited, and they will not receive points for that show.

Amended to working rule: NO CELL PHONES USED WHILE WORKING IN THE ARENA OR A POSITION THAT REQUIRES YOU TO PAY ATTENTION!! NO EXCEPTIONS!

Section 27: If the opinion of the show officials and /or riders there is any hazardous condition in a show arena that would make it unsafe for horse/rider, the pattern in the timed events can be changed so it will be safer.

Article 13

Show start times & Canceling shows

Section 1: Pleasure will Begin at 9Am and running will start not before 11Am. This will continue unless pleasure and running are split on different days.

Section 2: When a FRHA Qualifying/ Year-End award show is canceled, it is the responsibility of the Officers and/or Board of Directors to contact each FRHA member as soon as possible after the decision to cancel has been made. This contact can be made through E-mail or Social Media.

- Shows will be canceled by 6 a.m. the morning of the show if Pleasure is involved. If it's only a timed Show and the start time is before 11 a.m. the cancellation will also be made by 8a.m..
- If show is speed only and starts after 11 a.m. .The show will be canceled by 8 a.m.

Article 14

Entry Fee & Arena Fee

Section 1: Lead Line classes and Exhibition entry shall be \$4.00. All other classes entry shall be \$8.00

Section 2: There will be a \$5 Arena fee Per rider.

Article 15

Rule Proposal

Section 1: Rule proposal will be taken every other year so each rule has time to play out before we change it. (Amended September 10, 2023)

Section 2: Rule Proposal must be written out exactly how you want it worded and followed.

Article 16

Member Voting

Section 1: When Voting occurs you get 1 vote per members names on your membership.

Section 2: If you have a membership in both Running and Pleasure you get the voting rights to both running and Pleasure.

Chapter 2 Running & Pleasure Rules

Article 1

Times Events/Running Events

Section 1: There will be a three (3) minute gate call for all classes. For Timed events, after the 3-minute gate call, then the rider will drop to the bottom of that age group, with the same timed gate call.

Section 2: A horse may be shown only once in each class. A horse may be ridden for exhibition by any rider only at the end of the 43 and over class of each event without a drag. (An age division class is considered a different class per Federation Rules.) **Ex:** A horse may be shown in 1-12 Poles by one rider and 1-12 cones by another rider, Or if immediate family may be shown in 1-12 cones and 13-19 cones.

Section 3: If you show two horses in a timed event, the first horse that enters the arena for the run will always be considered the point horse.

Section 4: Riders under 12 years of age must declare at the beginning of the season if they elect to be awarded points in either the pony classes or the 1-12 classes (only one). They may run either event, but they can only accumulate payback, State Qualifying points, and Year- End awards in the class they declare as outlined above.

Section 5: No practice runs will be allowed after the show has started except during announced breaks. Alleyways and chutes must be clear at all times.

Section 6: An electronic timer that records time in the thousandths shall be used at all Qualifying/Year-End award shows; a backup timer should be at all shows. When an electric timer malfunctions or won't function at all, there should be a 30-minute maximum time allotted to correct said defective timer before replacing it with second set of timers.

Section 7: A show official must be in the arena during all running classes. An official will stand at the end of the cones and only they may determine disqualification.

Section 8: One re-ride is allowed if the horse falls with four (4) feet off the ground or if the electric timer fails for any reason.

Section 9: No times and off patterns need to be consistent in each event.

Amended on 09/10/2023 Running President and Vice president must go over NO-TIME and OFF PATTERN "at the beginning or the show season". Only the arena crew may call a NO TIME or OFF PATTERN.

Section 10: A fixed pattern is a good time as long as the timers are not crossed.

Section 11: There will be at least six qualifying shows each season with payback in speed classes only, excluding the Silver Jamboree (First Place in all events will receive a bucket)

Section 12: In the event of a tie in a running class, a run-off or flip of a coin will be used to declare the winner at the exhibitor's option.

Section 13: Each participant in the timed events must run during their age group's schedule class. They will not be permitted to run during any other time frame, regardless of circumstances.

Section 14: Riders in the timed events may wear a hat/cap. However, if the cap falls off in the arena there will be a \$15.00 hat fine that is to be paid to the FRHA. The fine will need to be paid prior to getting the hat/cap back or points being awarded.

Section 15: Arena will be dragged at the discretion of the running president and or Vice President as to how often the tractor driver will drag, and will take place based on the conditions and number of riders. This must be done at the beginning or the show.

Article 2

Judged & Pleasure Events

Section 1: Judges are secured by the Board of Directors for the qualifying/year-end award point show, but each judge will be limited to one show per season. Judges shall place all horses. Eight places in judged and timed events shall be announced.

Section 2: Judges may be a member of FRHA and conduct themselves in an unbiased manner. If the judge is a member of FRHA, they may not judge a class where a family member or student is competing. (Amended October 12, 2022)

Section 3: The judge's decision in accordance with FRHA rules will be final in all events. Unruly horses may be excused from the arena at the judge's discretion.

Section 4: A five (5) minute tack change will be allowed between Western and English classes.

Section 5: Halter horses may compete in their age group or sex group for Year-End awards.

Section 6: Princess and Queen class will be presented as a horsemanship class and judged in accordance with Georgia State Federation Rules. Contestants shall be a member of FRHA. Total entry fees paid will be paid directly to the Association to cover expenses of the Princess and Queen at the Georgia State Federation show, there will be no payback to participants. FRHA will furnish the sash that is to be worn for the class at the State show. The program ad expense is the responsibility of the Princess and Queen. The sash provided will be considered the end of the year award for the class.

Officer's and show dates published on www.flintriverhorsemansassociation.com they will be updated when shows are added or canceled.

For complete rules for Georgia Federation of Saddle Clubs please visit www.georgiafsc.com

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