

# NATIONAL REX RABBIT CLUB, INC. CONSTITUTION

## ARTICLE I - NAME

This Association shall be known as the National Rex Rabbit Club, Inc.

## ARTICLE II - AFFILIATION

This Club shall be affiliated with the American Rabbit Breeders Club, Inc.

## ARTICLE III - OBJECTS

The objects of this Club shall be:

- Sec. 1 To encourage the breeding of more and better Rex rabbits for FUR, FOOD, and FANCY.
- Sec. 2 To provide information on all matters pertaining to the Rex rabbit.
- Sec. 3 To improve the Standard of Perfection for Rex rabbits, and to revise such Standard, whenever necessary, upon the approval of the ARBA Standards Committee
- Sec. 4 To encourage the development of the Rex rabbit as a Commercial Breed.
- Sec. 5 To have an active publicity program.

## ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

- Sec. 1 Any person may become a member by signifying his/her wish to join and by paying yearly dues.
- Sec. 2 NEW: (1 yr) Adult or Youth \$15.00 - each additional person at same address \$5.00; (3 yrs) Adult or Youth \$30.00 - each additional person at same address \$12.00. RENEWAL: (1 yr) Adult or Youth \$10.00 - each additional person at same address \$5.00; (3 yr) Adult or Youth \$25.00 - each additional person at same address \$12.00. CANADIAN OR FOREIGN ADDRESS (All fees paid in US funds): NEW: (1 yr) Adult or Youth \$25.00 - each additional person at same address \$5.00; (3 yrs) Adult or Youth \$60.00 - each additional person at same address \$12.00. RENEWAL: (1 yr) Adult or Youth \$20.00 - each additional person at same address \$5.00; (3 yrs) Adult or Youth \$55.00 - each additional person at same address \$12.00. All membership fees must be paid in advance and are the same for both adult and youth. Only "individual" memberships will receive publications issued by the National Rex Rabbit Club, Inc. "Additional" members must have the same address as the "individual" member.
- Sec. 3 Membership shall be acknowledged by a card issued by the National Rex Rabbit Club and signed by the Secretary-Treasurer.
- Sec. 4 Members who do not renew within 60 days of the expiration date on their card shall be dropped. Any member wishing to renew a membership lapsing more than six (6) months will be required to pay the membership rate for a new member.
- Sec. 5 Complaints and charges of misconduct shall be presented in writing to the Executive Committee for action. The Executive Committee shall then investigate the charges thoroughly and notify in

writing both parties involved of their findings. The member against whom the charges have been preferred shall be given thirty (30) days to reply before action is taken by the Committee. The Committee may, by two-thirds (2/3) vote, suspend or expel any member. Less than two-thirds (2/3) majority shall constitute acquittal of the charges. Appeals may be submitted to a vote of the entire membership. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of those members voting shall be considered final.

Sec. 6 All members shall have the right to vote in person at bi-annual and special meetings of the National Rex Rabbit Club., Inc. All members shall also have the right to vote by mail for Elections of Officers submitted to the membership in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws.

#### ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Sec. 1 The elected officers of this Club shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, and seven (7) Directors. These officers, together with the appointed Secretary-Treasurer, shall compose the Executive Committee. All officers shall be members in good standing of the American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc.

Sec. 2 The President and Vice-President shall be elected for two (2) year terms, Directors for two (2) year terms, three (3) elected one year and four (4) the next.

Sec. 3 All elected officers shall take office January 1st following the election.

Sec. 4 Any vacancy occurring may be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by the Executive Committee.

Sec. 5 The office of Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed by the Executive Committee for a period of two (2) years. Said person may be removed from office for failure to perform the duties of the office as required by the Constitution and By-Laws and by the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Sec. 1 The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club, act as Chairman of the Executive Committee, appoint all committees, appoint an Election Commissioner to count the ballots, and perform other duties pertaining to the office. In case of a tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

Sec. 2 The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence, or in case of his/her inability to serve.

Sec. 3 The Secretary-Treasurer shall conduct the correspondence of the Club, notify members of meetings, keep an accurate record of all minutes, membership, and collect all dues. As Treasurer, he/she shall keep an accurate record of all incomes and expenditures, pay all claims as properly approved by the Club or Executive Committee, submit a financial statement to the membership annually and to the Executive Committee quarterly.

Sec. 4 The Secretary-Treasurer shall appoint the Sweepstakes Secretary for a term concurrent with his/her own term of office with the Executive Committee's approval.

Sec. 5 The President shall appoint an Auditing Committee to audit the Secretary-Treasurer's financial records. This shall be done annually before December 31st of each year.

Sec. 6 The Executive Committee shall carry out the decisions of the Club and transact all necessary business for the welfare of the Club.

#### ARTICLE VII - ELECTIONS

Sec. 1 Any member of the National Rex Rabbit Club, Inc., in good standing, wishing to become a candidate for any elective office of the National Rex Rabbit Club, Inc. Shall write to the Secretary-Treasurer for a nomination petition which the Secretary-Treasurer shall supply. The nomination petition shall be completed by the member and show the member's name and the office for which he/she is a candidate, be signed by him/her, and shall, in addition, be signed by ten (10) members in good standing of the National Rex Rabbit Club, Inc. The petition must then be returned, postmarked by July 1st, to the Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer shall place the name of the member appearing on the petition, and the office for which he/she is a candidate on the election ballot.

Sec. 2 The Secretary-Treasurer shall have the election ballots printed and numbered in a professional manner.<sup>i</sup>

Sec. 3 The election of officers and directors shall be by mailed ballot. Election ballots are to be mailed forty-five (45) days prior to the ARBA Convention and shall be returned at least fifteen (15) days prior to that convention to the Election Commissioner for counting. The results shall be announced at the annual meeting held at the ARBA Convention.

Sec. 4 The Election Commissioner shall send a report of the nominations and elections to the President and the Secretary-Treasurer.

Sec. 5 The Election Commissioner is disqualified from running for an elective office.

Sec. 6 The elected President shall hold the election ballots for a period of one (1) year.

Sec. 7 If an office receives only one (1) qualified candidate for that office, the Executive Committee shall declare the candidate the winner of that particular office. No election expense shall be incurred for election to an unopposed office.

#### ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS

Sec. 1 The biannual meetings shall be held at the time and place of the annual conventions of the American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc. and the National Rex Rabbit Show.

Sec. 2 There shall be ten (10) members present to constitute a quorum.

Sec. 3 Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all parliamentary procedure.

Sec. 4 All decisions at the biannual meetings shall be final, unless altered by majority vote of the membership by a mailed ballot. Ballots can be included with the REX WORLD.

Sec. 5 The annual National Rex Rabbit Club Show shall be held on the last weekend of April unless changed by the Executive Committee due to hardship.

#### ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Sec. 1 An amendment may be presented for consideration if signed by ten (10) members in good standing.

Sec. 2 Any amendment to be submitted to the membership at the biannual meetings shall be in the hands of the Secretary-Treasurer at least forty-five (45) days prior to the meeting. The amendment is to be acted upon by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee before being presented to the general membership.

Sec. 3 Any amendment to the Constitution must be passed by two-thirds (2/3) of the membership present at that meeting. If passed, it must then be voted on by the membership at large by mailed ballot. This ballot may be included in the REX WORLD.

Sec. 4 A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the membership votes cast is required for adoption of any amendment to the Constitution.

Sec. 5 All ballots shall be counted by the Election Commissioner.

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<sup>i</sup> ARTICLE VII, Sec. 2 amended by in 2008 by a vote of 160 FOR and 10 AGAINST.

# **NATIONAL REX RABBIT CLUB, INC. BY-LAWS**

## **ARTICLE I - ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The order of business at all meetings of the Club or Executive Committee shall be as follows:

- Roll Call
- Reading of Minutes of Previous Meeting
- Report of Executive Committee
- Report of Secretary-Treasurer
- Report of Committees
- Reading of Communications
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Discussion
- Adjournment

## **ARTICLE II - INCORPORATION**

The National Rex Rabbit Club, Inc. shall be incorporated as a non-profit organization.

## **ARTICLE III - OFFICERS**

- Sec. 1 No member shall be a candidate for office who is not actually engaged in the breeding of Rex and a member of this association for one (1) year at the time of nomination.
- Sec. 2 A plurality of votes cast shall constitute election to that office. An officer or director must attend at least one meeting in two (2) years in order to qualify for re-election. This qualification may be excused by vote of the Committee for unusual circumstances.
- Sec. 3 All officers shall be supplied with uniform stationary.
- Sec. 4 There will be no more than three (3) officers and/or directors elected and holding office from any state at any time. Should more than are allotted be elected, the candidates with the next highest plurality shall attain office.
- Sec. 5 Applicants for office of Secretary-Treasurer shall submit notice to the Executive Committee, signed by ten (10) members in good standing, of their intent to apply at least forty-five (45) days prior to the ARBA Convention.

## **ARTICLE IV - ESTABLISHED FEES**

- Sec. 1 The Secretary-Treasurer shall receive a commission of 10% of the total income the Club receives during each year they are appointed. Donations to the National Rex Rabbit Club, Inc.,

special premium and awards monies and anything so designated by the Executive Committee is excluded as income.

- Sec. 2 The Secretary-Treasurer shall be required to give a five-thousand dollar (\$5,000.00) bond issued by a bonding company, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. The premium of said bond to be paid by the National Rex Rabbit Club, Inc.
- Sec. 3 The Secretary-Treasurer shall receive a fee of one hundred-fifty dollars (\$150.00) for attending the ARBA Convention and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for attending the National Rex Rabbit Show for travel expenses with the Executive Committee approval.
- Sec. 4 The Editor of the REX WORLD shall receive fifteen cents (\$0.15) remuneration per copy mailed to the membership.
- Sec. 5 The Sweepstakes Secretary shall receive 15% of the sanction fee for each National Rex Rabbit Club sanction issued.

#### ARTICLE V - SHOWS

- Sec. 1 A fee of \$10.00 for Open and \$7.00 for Youth shall be collected from any club desiring to sponsor an Official Rex Club Sweepstakes Show. All regulations regarding Sweepstakes Shows shall not be considered as part of the By-Laws, but shall be revised from time to time as the Club sees fit, by voting such change at its annual meeting.
- Sec. 2 Each Rex Club member, in good standing, shall list two (2) suggestions for ARBA Conventions Judges on their general election ballot. The entire list of suggested judges will be given to the National Judges Committee for review, who in turn, shall develop a list of no less than five (5) and no more than twenty (20) judges, in order of desirability. This list will be presented to the Executive Board at the biannual fall convention meeting for acceptance by a majority vote. Any one judge may be stricken from the list by a simple majority vote of the Executive Board. The final approved list will be presented to the Rex Club President, and the top desired and available judges will be recommended to the ARBA Convention Show Committee. The choice of judges shall be made at least one (1) year in advance.<sup>i</sup>
- Sec. 3 All money contributed for special premiums and awards on Rex for the National Rex Show or the ARBA Convention shall be paid unless not won. Any balance shall be carried in the Show Fund and offered as specials on Rex at the next National Rex Show or ARBA Convention.
- Sec. 4 No National Rex Rabbit Club sanction will be granted on the same weekend of the National Rex Show within a six hundred (600) mile radius of the show site.
- Sec. 5 The National Rex Rabbit Club, Inc. will pay each ARBA judges one hundred dollars (\$100.00) each for judging Rex at the ARBA Convention.

#### ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS

- Sec. 1 Any amendment of the By-Laws to be submitted at the biannual meetings must be in the hands of the Secretary-Treasurer at least forty-five (45) days prior to the meeting. The amendment must be acted upon by the Resolutions Committee before being presented to the membership.

Sec. 2 Any amendment to the By-Laws must be passed by two-thirds (2/3) of the membership present at the meeting. If passed, it must then be voted on by the membership at large by mailed ballot. This ballot may be included with the REX WORLD.

Sec. 3 A majority vote of the membership votes cast shall constitute adoption of the amendment.

Sec. 4 A Resolutions Committee shall consist of five (5) members appointed by the President at the annual meeting.

Sec. 5 Resolutions not affecting the Constitution or By-Laws may be adopted at the bi-annual meetings by a majority vote.

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<sup>i</sup> ARTICLE V, Sec. 5 amended by majority vote in 2008.