

# CONSTITUTION of Prince William Regional Beekeepers Association

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ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be: Prince William Regional Beekeepers Association (PWRBA)

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1: The purpose of the PWRBA shall be to engage in any lawful activity that will increase knowledge of and promote apiculture in the Northern Virginia area.

Section 2: The objectives of this association are to promote and support:

- a) An understanding of and solutions to the common apiculture problems of its members.
- b) Apiculture education and the use of more productive methods of beekeeping.
- c) The development of both the scientific and practical aspects of beekeeping.
- e) Constructive relations with individuals, businesses, and other organizations.
- f) Activities, which serve to foster good relations between beekeepers and the general public.
- g) The increased use of honey and honey products.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership in the PWRBA shall be based solely on a person's interest in or willingness to engage in beekeeping, the beekeeping industry, or club activities.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of the PWRBA shall be a president, a vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer.

Section 2: The Officers shall hold office for a term of two years or until their successors are duly elected. Terms commence with the close of the meeting in which they are elected.

Section 3: The officers shall be elected by a majority vote, provided a quorum is present, at the regular meeting held during January in even-numbered years.

Section 4: The president and the vice-president may not succeed themselves in the office just held unless no other person is deemed either fit, eligible, or interested to run.

Section 5: The vice-president shall perform all duties of the president in the event of the president's absence, disability, or resignation.

Section 6: Should a vacancy occur in the positions of vice-president, secretary, or treasurer, the president shall appoint a member of the association to serve in the respective office for the remainder of the term subject to approval by vote of the members.

ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The executive committee shall consist of the elected officers, the editor of the newsletter, webmaster, and recorder, the Bee School Principal, and/or any other individuals as appointed by the president. The executive committee shall have authority to transact business on behalf of the association between meetings of the members. Meetings of the executive committee shall be called by the president or by any two of the other officers.

**ARTICLE VI: THE POSITION OF BEE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

The PWRBA considers the position of Bee School Principal to be of particular importance to the future of the Association. Therefore the Bee School Principal shall be appointed or removed by the President of the PWRBA with the advice and consent of a majority of the Executive Committee. There is no specified term for this position. Should the Bee School Principal be removed or resign the Vice-President shall preside over Bee School until a replacement is named.

**ARTICLE VII: ADVISORY BOARD**

**Section 1:** There shall be, optionally, an advisory board consisting of:

- a) Selected members of the executive committee
- b) Up to four additional members (or more as deemed appropriate) selected to two-year terms. They shall be selected each year by the President and Executive Committee at the same time as the officers are elected or at any time additional advisory board members are deemed necessary.

**Section 2:** The purpose of the advisory board is to recommend and support actions and programs which serve to implement the stated objectives of this association and which foster cooperative efforts with neighboring beekeepers associations.

**Section 3:** Meetings are to be held on the call of the president at least three times a year and shall be open to all members of this association and invited guests.

**Section 4:** Standing committees may be appointed by the president, subject to approval by the executive committee. Ad hoc committees may be appointed by the president at any time.

**ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS**

**Section 1:** Regular meetings of the members shall be held on the 2nd Tuesday of the Months of January, March, May September, and November. The executive committee may make exceptions to this schedule provided due notice is provided via e-mail to members or posted on the website.

**Section 2:** Special meetings, special events or workshops may be held at any time at the discretion of the association.

**Section 3:** Notice of each meeting, special event or workshop shall be mailed or e-mailed to each paid member of the association prior to the date of the event

**Section 4:** Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order, Revised.

**Section 5:** Membership in the association is not required for attendance at meetings or other events.

**ARTICLE IX: QUORUM**

Eight paid members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular meeting. Three members of the executive committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of committee business.

**ARTICLE X: DISSOLUTION**

Upon the dissolution of this association, its executive committee shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all its liabilities, distribute any assets remaining to organization that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501 (c),j) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

#### ARTICLE XI: NET EARNINGS

No part of the net earnings of this association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, officers, or other private persons, except that the executive committee shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes and objectives set forth in Article II hereof.

#### ARTICLE XII: BYLAWS

The members, by a majority of those present and voting, shall adopt such bylaws, rules, make regulations as they deem necessary for the government of the association, provided the bylaws, rules and regulations are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution.

#### ARTICLE XIII: AMMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the paid members present and voting at any regular meeting, provided the proposed amendment shall have been submitted to the executive-committee in sufficient time for notice of the proposed amendment to be e-mailed to each member at least fifteen days prior to the date of said meeting.

#### ARTICLE XIV: DUES

The annual dues of members shall be: \$20.00, such amount to include the member's household with the provision that a family unit paying a single membership fee shall be entitled to a single vote. Dues shall be payable in advance and shall cover the period beginning January 1 and ending December 31.

#### ARTICLE XV. DUTIES OF OFFICER

Section 1: The president, as the chief executive officer of the association, shall:

- a) Preside over all official meetings of the members and of the executive committee
- b) Appoint such standing and ad hoc committees as may be deemed necessary.
- c) Be authorized to make deposits and disbursements of association monies should the treasurer be unable to perform these duties.
- d) Discharge such-other duties as usually pertinent to the office.

Section 2:

The Vice-President shall:

- a) Perform the duties of the president in his/her absence and shall discharge such other duties as may be directed by the president.
- b) Preside over association committees and responsible for communications between the respective committees and the executive body.
- c) preside over Bee School should a vacancy occur and until a replacement is named

Section 3:

The secretary shall take minutes of all meetings, conduct association correspondence, and maintain custody of all administrative records, and archives. A recorder may also be appointed to take minutes of the membership meetings.

Section 4:

The Treasurer shall:

- a) Receive membership dues and all other income of the association and make disbursements as appropriate.

- b) Maintain accurate records of all monies collected and disbursed and make a report of same at each Executive Board meeting.
- c) Perform all other duties commonly incident to this office.
- d) Option the co-signature of the president or his designee on all association bank checks.
- e) Reimburse members for expenses incurred on behalf of the PWRBA only when expenses have been approved in advance in writing or by e-mail by the Treasurer and the President or Vice President.

ARTICLE XVI AMENDMENTS:

These by laws may be amended by a majority vote of the paid members present and voting at any regular meeting provided the proposed amendment shall have been submitted to the executive committee in sufficient time for written notice of the proposed amendment to be e-mailed to each member at least fifteen days prior to the date of said meeting.

ARTICLE XVII: REPEALING CLAUSE:

Upon acceptance by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present and voting at a meeting at which a quorum is present this Constitution and Bylaws shall supersede all previous Constitutions and Bylaws.

AMENDMENTS

- AMENDMENT 1 Adopt new name, Prince William Regional Beekeepers Association, (Revised February, 2008)
- AMENDMENT 2 The annual dues of members shall be: \$20.00, such amount to include the member's spouse or domestic partner and their dependent children with the provision that a family unit paying a single membership fee shall be entitled to a single vote. Dues shall be payable in advance and shall cover the period beginning January 1 and ending December 31. (Revised May, 2008).
- AMENDMENT 3 Section 4: The president and the vice-president may not succeed themselves in the office just held unless no other person is deemed either fit, eligible, or interested to run. (Revised January 13, 2009).
- AMENDMENT 4 ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The executive committee shall consist of the selected officers of the association, the editor of the newsletter, webmaster, and recorder, and/or any other individuals as appointed by the president. (Revised January 13, 2009).
- AMENDMENT 5 Section 1: There shall be, optionally, an advisory board consisting of:  
  
Up to four additional members (or more as deemed appropriate) selected to two-year terms by the members. They shall be elected selected each year by the President and Executive Committee at the same time and with the same procedure as the officers are elected or at any time additional advisory board members are deemed necessary. (Revised January 13, 2009).
- AMENDMENT 6 One representative from each of the ether duly constituted Prince William Regional Beekeepers Association area. Such representatives shall be appointed or elected by their respective associations. (Revised January 13, 2009).  
  
The executive committee may make exceptions to this schedule provided due notice is provided via e-mail to members or posted on the website. (Revised January 13, 2009).
- AMENDMENT 7 The vice-president will preside over association committees and responsible for communications between the respective committees and the executive body. (Revised January 13, 2009).
- AMENDMENT 8 Section 3: The secretary shall take minutes of all meetings, conduct association correspondence, and

maintain custody of all administrative records, and archives. A recorder shall also be appointed to take minutes of the membership meetings. (Revised January 13, 2009).


AMENDMENT 8      Option the co-signature of the president or his designee on all association bank accounts.


**Ratified by unanimous vote at the regular membership meeting September 9, 2014**

Signatures:

Officers of PWRBA elected January 2014

  
Ben Gimeno (Signature and Date)  
President      9/9/2014

  
Craig Staresinich (Signature and Date)  
Treasurer      1/13/15

  
Dave Wright (Signature and Date)  
Vice-President      10/28/14

  
Tracy Williamson (Signature and Date)  
Secretary      9/9/14

Executive Board Members of PWRBA, January 2014

  
Louise Edsall (Signature and Date)  
10/25/14

  
Gary Harris (Signature and Date)  
10/28/14

  
John Strecker (Signature and Date)  
11/22/14

  
Karla Eisen (Signature and Date)  
10/20/2014

  
Bruce Louchen (Signature and Date)  
10/28/14