

# **National Shorthorn Lassies Constitution**

## **ARTICLE I: NAME**

Section 1. This Association shall be known as the National Shorthorn Lassies.

## **ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVES**

Section 1. The object of this Association shall be to encourage and extend the influence of Shorthorn breeding, to promote the interests of its membership, to stimulate greater activity, and to cultivate closer relations between them.

Section 2. To arrange for exhibits at national shows, present awards, publicize the breed, provide reception committees, and conduct such activities that pertain to the National Queen contest and any other promotional activities.

## **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Any female interested in the promotion of Shorthorn cattle may send her name and address along with the current annual fee to her State Lassie Chapter.

Section 2. The State Chapters pay annual designated dues to the National Lassies on a "per member" basis. If they have no State Chapter, dues may be sent to the National Membership Chair.

## **ARTICLE IV: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

Section 1. The Directors of this Association shall be elected by written ballot at the annual meeting for a two-year term. No Director shall serve more than two consecutive terms (4 years). There shall be a minimum of six members on the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE V: OFFICERS**

Section 1. The Officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer/Membership Officer, Queen Officer, Ways and Means Officer, and Publicity Officer. This group shall comprise the "Board of Directors".

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall fill any vacancies by a majority vote. Any appointment of one year or longer shall constitute a full term.

Section 3. Each Board Member will receive a current Constitution and Bylaws of The National Shorthorn Lassies and a National Shorthorn Lassie Officer's Handbook.

## **ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings, appoint any committees not otherwise provided for and perform any other duties pertaining to the office of President.

Section 2. The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President and perform all duties pertaining to the office. The Vice President shall also serve as Historian.

Section 3. The Secretary shall record all proceedings of the Association and provide a copy to all board members. She shall conduct all correspondence.

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Section 4. The Treasurer/Membership Officer shall keep an accurate account of all receipts and expenditures. The Treasurer shall have the books audited every two years and at the time of change in office. The officer will maintain a current listing of all members and addresses and collect the annual dues "per member" from each State Lassie Association. She will provide to each Board Member a copy of each state's officers. A copy of the total general membership will be provided to the National Secretary.

Section 5. The Publicity office shall orchestrate all communication to the general membership through the Tartan Plaid segment of the Shorthorn Country or Newsletter. Then she will coordinate a National Newsletter following each Board Meeting to facilitate communication with each State President, Secretary, and the National Board. The State shall be responsible for distributing the information to their general membership.

Section 6. The Queen Officer shall take care of all matters pertaining to the queen contestants and coordination of related queen events.

Section 7. The Ways and Means Officer shall devise and carry out projects to raise funds for operational expenses. She will be in charge of planning exhibits for the booth at the show and sales or wherever deemed necessary.

## **ARTICLE VII: ANNUAL MEETINGS**

Section 1. The Lassie annual meeting is to coincide with the National Junior Shorthorn Show.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall meet the day before the annual Lassie meeting, and at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, and whenever else is deemed necessary. The Lassie membership meetings should not conflict with any scheduled ASA National membership meetings.

## **ARTICLE VIII: QUORUM**

Section 1. A 2/3 majority of paid up members present at the annual meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. At any meeting of the Board of Directors, a majority of the total number of Directors present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Action taken by a majority of Directors present at any meeting shall constitute action by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. The foregoing constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a 2/3 vote of the paid up members present. All members must be notified 30 days in advance of an impending change of the constitution.

# **National Shorthorn Lassies Revised Bylaws**

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Last revision October, 2006

## ARTICLE I: BYLAWS

Section 1. To clearly define and clarify the Articles of the Constitution.

## ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. The membership dues of the National Shorthorn Lassies shall be \$10.00 per year, per member.

## ARTICLE III: MEETINGS

Section 1. Notification of annual meetings will appear in the Shorthorn Country at least 30 days prior to meeting date. This shall constitute official notice.

Section 2. All membership dues and lists of member's names and addresses are to be sent to the Treasurer/Membership Officer by April 1st.

Section 3. All queen registration fees, queen pictures, and completed applications for the national contest will be sent to the Queen Officer by April 1st.

Section 4. Written nominations for Board of Directors are to be sent to the National President or Nominations person prior to the annual meeting. Candidates for the Board of Director positions must be a paid National Lassie Member. A printed form will be available from the National President or Nominations Chairman to candidates desiring a position on the board. If a nominee cannot be present at the annual meeting, a signed letter of consent to be nominated must be available at the National Lassie Meeting.

Section 5. All Lassie of the Year nominations are to be sent to the Treasurer/Membership Chair by April 1st. Each state is allowed to submit two names for "Lassie of the Year." Plaques are given to the two top finalists during the banquet at the annual ASA awards meeting.

## ARTICLE IV: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Shorthorn Country is the official publication of the National Shorthorn Lassies informational data. All information on the Board of Directors, queens, financial and Secretary reports can be found in this publication as well as on the official American Shorthorn Association's web page: [www.shorthorn.org](http://www.shorthorn.org).

Section 2. Each board member will pay her own expenses incurred in attending national meetings.

Section 3. If for some reason a board member cannot carry out her duties for a period of six months, she should resign her position.

Section 4. During the national queen contest, the Board of Directors has the right to disqualify any contestant who does not comply with the rules set forth in the queen booklet and the current updated supplement to the queen booklet. States and candidates may request a queen handbook for the queen officer.

Section 5. Recognition will be given to retiring board members at the annual Lassie meeting.

Section 6. Each Board Member is expected to prepare an "end of the year" report to present at the annual meeting. Newly Elected officers will receive orientation to her office from her successor.

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## ARTICLE V: QUEENS

Section 1. Beginning in 1999, the National Shorthorn Queen will be elected at the National Junior Shorthorn Show annually. The queen handbook including current updated application is available on line at [www.shorthorn.org](http://www.shorthorn.org). As soon as a new queen is elected, her state officers should send her name and address to the National Queen Chairman. April 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for receiving queen information and pictures.

Section 2. Ditty bags are made each year by a State Lassie Chapter. Each state is expected to supply an item to fill the ditty bags. They should send items to the national queen contest with their queen candidate or see that they arrive in plenty of time for the contest. These items can be anything that would be suitable as a memento for the queens.

Section 3. The pattern for the Official Lassie costume will be on file with the National Lassies. Extra pieces or the entire outfit may be ordered. The National Lassie Handbook contains the official requirements of the Lassie Costume.

Section 4. Princesses, on a national basis, are not recognized. State Lassie Queens may participate in a National American Shorthorn Show or PACE Show by wearing a smaller crown or designated state crown while in the presence of the National Shorthorn Lassie Queen and the National Alternate Lassie Queen. No State Queen or queen contestant may wear her crown during the National Shorthorn Lassie Queen selection week held during the American Shorthorn Junior Nationals.

Section 5. Judges are chosen by the President and Queen Officer. The judges receive no monetary, only a small complimentary gift.

Section 6. The current registration fee for sending a state queen to the National Show should be sent to the Queen Officer by April 1st.

Section 7. The states and parents of the queens are responsible for their queen's expenses to and from and during the National Junior Show. Queen candidates and parent or legal guardian will be asked to sign a release from responsibility form for the National Lassie Association. The National Queen will be asked to sign a contract to fulfill her duties as Queen or forfeit her scholarship/travel money.

Section 8. The President is in charge of the planned events at the National Show and Queen Contest. She will work with the ASA office and other necessary persons to schedule all activities.

## ARTICLE VI: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

Section 1. The rules contained in the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised" shall govern all meetings in matters not covered by the Constitution or Bylaws.

Section 2. Order of Business:

1. Call to order by President
2. Reading of minutes of last meeting
3. Treasurer's report
4. Report of officers
5. Report of committees
6. Unfinished business (call for bills)
7. New business
8. Election of directors
9. General Program
10. Adjournment

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## **ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS**

Section I. The foregoing Bylaws or any part of them or any amendments thereto may be modified at any annual meeting or adjourned session thereof by a 2/3 vote of the paid up members present. All members shall be notified 30 days in advance of an impending change in the Bylaws.