

# The Constitution of the Ohio Mini Rex Rabbit Club

## Article I

### Name

Sec I This club shall be known as the Ohio Mini Rex Rabbit Club.

## Article II

### Purpose

Sec I The purpose of the Ohio Mini Rex Rabbit club is to promote the Mini Rex rabbit through the State of Ohio.

Sec II To encourage the sanctioning of the Mini Rex rabbits at rabbit shows.

Sec III To be a source of information on the Mini Rex rabbit.

Sec IV To promote the National Mini Rex Rabbit Club.

## Article III

### Associations

Sec I The Ohio Mini Rex Rabbit Club shall be a chartered regional specialty club of the American Rabbit Breeders Assoc., Inc; the National Mini Rex Rabbit Club, and the Ohio State Rabbit Breeders Assoc., Inc.; and shall be governed by the rules and regulations of these parent/associated organizations that apply to regional specialty clubs.

## Article IV

### Authority

Sec I This club shall have the authority to make such rules and regulations as are necessary for the governing of its activities and members, and shall have the authority to inflict such penalties as it deem necessary for disobedience of these rules and regulations as provided in the by-laws.

Sec II Robert's Rules of Order shall be considered the final authority on all matters not covered in this constitution or by-laws, or those of parent/associated organization.

## Article V

### Membership

Sec I Any person may become a member of this club by paying the membership dues as stipulated in the by-laws, and by agreeing to abide by the rules, regulations, and mandates of this club.

Sec II Membership shall be acknowledged by a membership card issued and signed by the Secretary/Treasurer.

Sec III All members in good standing, except youth, shall have the right to vote.

Sec IV All members shall be entitled to all information that is in the possession of this club.

## Article VI

### Officers

Sec I The elected officers of this club shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary/Treasurer, four (4) directors and one (1) youth director.

Sec II The President, the Vice-President, and the Secretary/Treasurer shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Directors.

Sec III All officers shall be a member in good standing for one (1) year of the American Rabbit Breeders Association, the National Mini Rex Rabbit Club, and the Ohio Mini Rex Rabbit Club.

Sec IV All members in good standing shall have all the benefits, privileges, and voting powers of membership.

Sec V Election of officers shall be by mail ballot each October. A President and two (2) directors and youth director shall be elected in even calendar years; and a Vice-President, a Secretary/Treasurer, and two (2) Directors shall be elected in odd calendar years.

Sec VI All officers elected from and by the membership will serve a term of two (2) years beginning the first day of January following their election and ending on the last day of December the following year. Officers shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office.

Sec VII The first election to be held following the adoption of this Constitution shall be in October 1997.

#### **Article VII**

##### **Meetings**

Sec I This club shall conduct general membership meetings at all shows that are sponsored by this club, and at such times as designated in the bylaws.

#### **Article VIII**

##### **Amendments**

- Sec I Proposed amendments to this constitution may be made in writing to the secretary before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May in the year in which it will be presented to the membership.
- Sec II When a proposal is received, the Secretary shall inform the President and the Board of Directors in a timely fashion. The President shall then appoint a committee, with the approval of the Board of Directors, to study the proposed amendment and make a recommendation to the membership that they accept or reject it.
- Sec III Each proposal shall be confined to one subject only.
- Sec IV All proposed amendments to this Constitution, regardless of the committee's recommendation, shall be placed on the annual October ballot for the membership to decide to accept it or reject it.

#### **By-laws**

##### **Article I**

##### **MEMBERSHIP**

- Sec I Memberships shall be classified as: Individual, Combination, and Youth (under the age of 19 years).
- Sec II Annual membership dues shall be as follows: individual \$7.00, combination (H/W, or 2 adults residing at the same address) \$10.00, youth \$5.00, family \$15.00 (H/W, children). 3 Year membership dues as follows: individual \$19, combination \$28, youth \$12, family \$42.
- Sec III Membership dues are payable by January 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.
- Sec IV Members whose dues are over 30 days in arrears shall be removed from the roll.

#### **Article II**

##### **Duties of Officers**

- Sec I The duties of the President shall be to preside over all meetings of the club, act as Chairperson of the Board of Directors, call special meetings of the Board of Directors or of the membership. The President shall appoint committees and committee chairpersons, fill vacancies of office -- subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, and shall perform other duties that usually pertain to the office and /or as directed by the Board of Directors.
- Sec II The duties of the Vice President shall be the same as those of the President in the event that the President is absent or disabled.
- Sec III The duties of the Secretary/Treasurer shall be to keep an accurate record of all moneys received by this club and all moneys spent on behalf of this club as directed by the Board of Directors. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all memberships, attendance of meetings, and all business discussed at all meetings. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be the custodian of the club's records and property. The Secretary/Treasurer shall maintain a set of books in a manner acceptable to the Board of Directors, and shall be bonded in an amount set by the Board of Directors. The bond shall be paid by the Ohio Mini Rex Club. The Secretary/Treasurer shall insure that a quarterly financial report is published in the newsletter. The Secretary/Treasurer shall, unless otherwise directed by the President and or Board of Directors, maintain an accurate sweepstakes point system.

- Sec IV The Board of Directors shall have charge of the various business transactions of this club, and shall authorize the expenditure of moneys by and for this club. The Board shall establish a format for the keeping of this club's financial records and will insure that the format is adhered to. The Board shall audit the club's financial records annually. The Board shall meet fifteen (15) minutes before all meetings of the club to discuss any business that may fall within its jurisdiction. The Board shall insure that all proposed amendments to this Constitution are discussed during regularly scheduled meetings or printed in the OMRRC newsletter before the proposed amendment is placed on the annual October ballot. The amendments shall be discussed at two (2) regularly scheduled meetings, or printed two (2) times in the OMRRC newsletter, or discussed at one (1) meeting and printed one (1) time in the OMRRC newsletter before the proposed amendment is placed on the annual October ballot.
- Sec V The duties of the youth director are to be sure that the youth voice is heard at all board meetings.

### **Article III Meetings**

- Sec I The President shall have the authority to call special meetings of the Board of Directors or of the general membership provided the membership has been notified by mail (7) days in advance of the meeting.
- Sec II At all special meetings, five (5) members in good standing shall constitute a quorum. If no quorum is present, the president shall suspend the meeting and reschedule the meeting for a later time.
- Sec III At all special meetings only the business that the meeting was called for may be discussed.
- Sec IV At all meetings the President shall preside and the Secretary/Treasurer shall act as secretary. In the event that the President is absent, the Vice President shall preside. In the event that the Secretary/Treasurer is absent, the presiding officer shall appoint a member in good standing to act as temporary secretary.
- Sec V At all regular meetings the order of business shall be as follows:
- A. Reading and approval of the minutes of the last meeting, unless they have been printed in the newsletter.
  - B. Reading of the minutes of the last Board of Directors meeting (if applicable).
  - C. Treasurer's report, unless the Treasurer's report has been printed in the newsletter.
  - D. Communications
  - E. Reports of committees (if any).
  - F. Unfinished business.
  - G. New Business.
  - H. General discussion for the good of the club.
  - I. Adjournment
- Sec VI Voting at all meetings shall be by voice unless a paper ballot is requested.

### **Article IV Shows**

- Sec I This club shall conduct specialty shows at various times and locations throughout Ohio that best serves the interests of the membership and that best serves to promote the Mini Rex rabbit. The Club shall alternate one specialty show from the south (even years) with one north (odd years). One show shall be centrally located every year with an attempt to alternate spring and fall show locations.
- Sec II Show dates and locations shall be chosen by the membership at regularly scheduled meetings or by mail ballot.
- Sec III Offers to host an Ohio Mini Rex Rabbit show may be made in writing, to the Secretary/Treasurer.
- Sec IV A show committee shall be appointed for each show by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors. The show committee shall have the authority to conduct the general business necessary for conducting a show. The committee shall establish a budget for the show, gain approval from the Board of Directors and adhere to the budget. Unexpected cost overruns must be approved by the Board of Directors.

**Article V  
Sanctions**

Sec I Local clubs wishing to obtain a sanction from the Ohio Mini Rex Rabbit club must make their request, in writing, to the Secretary/Treasurer at least 30 days in advance of the show date. The request must include the name of the club, the date and location of the show, the name of the club secretary, and A.R.B.A. sanction number, and a check for the OMRRC sanction fees. The Secretary/Treasurer will then grant the request, unless directed otherwise by the Board of Directors.

Sec II Sanction fees are as follows:

Open \$8.00

Youth \$4.00

**Article VI  
Sweepstakes**

Sec I Sweepstakes shall be accrued by members in good standing by using the following formula: a first place finish = 5 points, second place = 4 points, third place = 3 points, fourth place = 2 points, and fifth place = 1 point. . If there are 5 rabbits and 3 exhibitors, Best of Variety will get 10 bonus points. Best Opposite Sex of Variety gets 5 bonus points with 5 rabbits and 3 exhibitors. A bonus of one point multiplied by the number of animals in the breed will be awarded for a best of breed placement. A bonus of one-half point multiplied by the number of animals in the breed will be awarded for best opposite sex placement. One hundred points will be awarded for a Best in Show placement. Sweepstakes awards will be presented to the first through fifth place winners. Sweepstakes points shall be kept by variety. Bonus points will not be presented to variety winners. The winner in each variety, open and youth will receive an award. A fur sweepstakes shall be conducted in open and youth classes. Points to be calculated as above. Awards to be presented to the first through fifth placer winners.

Sec II The sweepstakes period shall be January 1 through December of each calendar year.

Sec III Sweepstakes points awarded at all Ohio Mini Rex Rabbit specialty shows shall count as double to encourage participation to club members.

Sec IV Sweepstakes points awarded to youth showing in an open show, where only open show is sanctioned, these points to count as youth points.

**Article VII  
Election Procedure**

Sec I Any eligible club member in good standing wishing to be a candidate for any office, may become a candidate by declaring their candidacy, in writing, to the Secretary/Treasurer by the first day of September for the office that is to be filled the following year.

Sec II The Secretary/Treasurer shall mail one (1) ballot to each adult club member before the first day of October of each calendar year. The returning ballots must be postmarked by October 31<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year in order to be counted.

Sec III Facsimiles or copies of ballots will not be accepted.

Sec IV Voting by proxy will not be permitted.

Sec V The President shall appoint a committee, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, to tally the ballots and report the results to the Secretary/Treasurer, who shall insure that the results are published in the club newsletter.

Sec VI In case of a tie, the Board of Directors shall elect an officer by secret ballot.

### **Article VIII**

#### **Discipline**

- Sec I Grievances against any officer or member of this club shall be made in writing to the Secretary/Treasurer or President who shall bring the grievance to the attention of the Board of Directors for appropriate action. If the grievance is against Director, then that Director shall excuse him/herself from participation in the investigation.
- Sec II Every member named in a grievance shall have ten (10) days, after being notified of the grievance, to respond in writing. All responses shall be considered by the Board of Directors.
- Sec III If a grievance is substantiated, the Board of Directors shall have the authority to inflict penalties ranging from reprimand to expulsion from this club.

### **Article IX**

#### **Amendments**

- Sec I Proposed amendments to these Bylaws may be made, in writing, by any member in good standing, to the Secretary/Treasurer, before the last day of May in the year that it will be presented to the membership.
- Sec II When a proposed amendment is received, the Secretary/Treasurer shall inform the President and the Board of Directors in a timely fashion. The president shall then appoint a committee, with the approval of the Board of Directors, to study the proposed amendment and make recommendation to the membership that they accept or reject it. There may not be more than one (1) officer on the committee.
- Sec III Each proposal shall be confined to one (1) subject only.
- Sec IV All proposed amendments to the By-laws, regardless of committee recommendation, shall be placed on the annual October ballot for the membership to decide on.