

## 2021 Proposed Rule Changes

Page 22-23 Elections Section 2

**Current Rule:** A. Filing Requirements for positions of either officer or director require:

1. Persons seeking office must be members in good standing and must be at least 21 years of age as of January 1 of the current year.
- 2.. Persons filing for an officer position, President, Vice President, or Secretary/Treasurer, may reside in any of the established regions.
3. Persons filing for positions of Director shall reside in the specific region which he or she is seeking to represent.
4. Persons seeking office of either Officer or Director shall submit nomination forms during the nomination period commencing in July and closing in August, as prescribed by the Board of Directors, in order for their names to be placed on the MFTHBA official ballot for the annual election to be held in October.
5. Region designations are shown on Page 19 of this handbook

**Change to:** Change 3. Persons seeking office of either Officer or Director shall submit nomination forms **and resume** during the nomination period commencing in July and closing in August, as prescribed by the Board of Directors, in order for their names to be placed on the MFTHBA official ballot for the annual election to be held in October.

**Add:** 6. **Persons seeking or currently serving on the MFTHBA Board of Directors may not have been considered a Member Not in Good Standing for any period during the previous 5 years or during a current term.**

**Reason for change:** The submittal of a resume at the time of nomination will ensure that information is available in the office for posting to members to get to know the individuals running. Currently this information is requested after nomination but is frequently never supplied by the candidate. The MFTHBA Board should set the highest standard. Item 6 further promotes this concept. Individuals running or serving on the Board that has been a member not in good standing compromises the integrity of the Board.

### **Page 33 200 Section 1 B-7**

**Current Rule:** 7. Absence of required Signature: In any case where these rules and regulations require the signature of a person who cannot be located, the following procedure will be followed:

- a) All attempts will be made by the individual submitting the requested services to locate the person through membership information or any other information available at the time in order to obtain their signature on the document. Attempts must include certified mail sent to the last known address of the person sought.
- b) If all attempts fail, evidence of all attempts must be submitted to the MFTHBA office. The office staff will then post a notice on the MFTHBA web site asking the person or anyone knowing the location of the person in question to notify the office immediately. This notice will be published for two (2) months.
- c) If the notice on the web site fails to locate the person in question after a two (2) month time period, the Board of Directors may vote to waive the requirement for signature.
- d) The office staff shall then complete the transaction with notation on the paperwork that all attempts to locate the required person failed and that the transaction was approved with the signature requirement waived by the Board of Directors

**Change to:** 7. Absence of required Signature: In any case where **any** rules and regulations require the signature of a person who cannot be located, the following procedure will be followed:

a) The individual will submit the request in writing and will pay a fee. The individual will conduct a DNA test on the horse or pony in question. These results must be on file before final approval for may be given by the Board of Directors.

b) The MFTHBA will send a certified letter to the individual's last known address. The MFTHBA will contact the individual using the last known phone number and email address.

b) If all attempts fail, the office staff will then post a notice on the MFTHBA web site asking the person or anyone knowing the location of the person in question to notify the office immediately. This notice will be published for two (2) months.

c) If the notice on the web site fails to locate the person in question after a two (2) month time period, the Board of Directors may vote to waive the requirement for signature.

d) The office staff shall then complete the transaction with notation on the paperwork that all attempts to locate the required person failed and that the transaction was approved with the signature requirement waived by the Board of Directors

**Reason for change:** The MFTHBA frequently gets requests to transfer or register a horse with a missing signature. The procedure outlined in the rule book is the one used for all these transactions. In addition, the Board has been requesting DNA tests on horses in this situation. The update includes this requirement. The update also removed the responsibility for private individuals to track down the last known owner or breeder. MFTHBA membership information is private. Since the MFTHBA cannot share the information, it should fall on the MFTHBA to contact the owner of record. The rule change also includes the requirement that these individuals pay a fee to cover the expense of the MFTHBA handling the process.

### **Page 33 200 Section 2 B 3**

**Current Rule: B.** Failure to submit a completed report by the due date will result in a late charge assessed the first day of each month following January 31. Such late charge is currently set at \$5 per month, up to a maximum charge of \$60.

**Change to:** B. Failure to submit a completed report by the due date will result in a late charge assessed on the first day of each month following January 31.

**Reason for change:** If submitted on time, there is no charge for a stallion breeding report. Fees are included on the fee schedule. The fee being listed here is redundant.

### **Page 33 200 Section 2 C-2**

**Current Rule:** 2. Applications submitted for registrations shall include the completed Breeder's Certificate signed by the recorded owner of the sire and the recorded owner of the dam at time of service. However, in cases where the stallion or mare is leased and written notification of said lease signed by the owner is on file with MFTHBA at the time of registration, the lessee shall check the appropriate box and sign as lessee. Signature of owner of leased stallion or mare is not required when lease is on file in the MFTHBA office.

**Change to:** 2. Applications submitted for registrations shall include the completed Breeder's Certificate signed by the recorded owner of the sire and the recorded owner of the dam at time of service. **The stallion owner's signature requirement will not be required if the stallion owner waives this requirement on the stallion breeding report.** In cases where the stallion or mare is leased and written notification of said lease signed by the owner is on file with MFTHBA at the time of registration, the lessee shall check the appropriate box and sign as lessee. The signature of the owner of the leased stallion or mare is not required when the lease is on file in the MFTHBA office.

**Reason for change:** The MFTHBA will be updating the stallion breeding report to allow stallion owners to indicate mares that have met their requirements to the stallion owner (i.e. payments) and are released to register their foals. This change will reduce paperwork requirements for the stallion owner and streamline the process for mare owners. The stallion owner will control the ability to waive the requirement for a signature and it may be done individually by mare.

#### **Page 34 200 Section 2 D**

**Current Rule:** D. DNA Required: Any producing mare and all breeding stallions must be DNA tested before their offspring are eligible for registration.

**Change to:** D. DNA Required: **All foals must be DNA tested and parent verified before registration.** Any producing mare and all breeding stallions must be DNA tested before their offspring are eligible for registration.

**Reason for change:** The top priority of the MFTHBA is to maintain accurate registration records. In recent years there have been a few registration issues that would have been avoided if the horse had been DNA tested at the time of registration. Any occurrence of this is not acceptable and the MFTHBA should do everything in its power to ensure that registration papers issued by the association are accurate. This change will do that.

#### **Page 34 200 Section 2 D**

**Current Rule:** D. DNA Required: Any producing mare and all breeding stallions must be DNA tested before their offspring are eligible for registration.

**Change to:** D. DNA Required: **All foals registered after 12 months of age must be DNA tested and parent verified before registration.** Any producing mare and all breeding stallions must be DNA tested before their offspring are eligible for registration.

**Reason for change:** The top priority of the MFTHBA is to maintain accurate registration records. In recent years there have been a few registration issues that would have been avoided if the horse had been DNA tested. The longer an individual waits to register a foal or if the horse changes hands prior to initial registration the more chances mistakes can occur. This rule change would require any foal older than 12 months to be DNA tested and parent verified. Foals younger would not have to be DNA tested.

**\*\*NOTE: Two options for potential changes to Page 34 200 Section 2 D are being presented for feedback. One or none may be approved but not both.**

#### **Page 39 200 Section 6 E 1**

**Current Rule:** 1. Non-Members: may transfer record of ownership at the cost of \$60.00. Should the buyer wish to become a member, it will be the buyer's responsibility to fulfill membership requirements.

**Change to:** 1. Non-Members: may transfer record of ownership **for an additional fee.** Should the buyer wish to become a member, it will be the buyer's responsibility to fulfill membership requirements.

**Reason for change:** This change removed the stated fee from the rule.

**Page 41 200 Section 8**

**Current Rule:** Fee Schedule

**Change to:** Remove Section 8.

**Reason for change:** The fee schedule is listed at the beginning of the rule book and certain fees are listed throughout the document. Removing the listing here consolidates the listing and prevents errors when fees are updated.

Page 49 B. Standard of Conduct

**Current Rule:** N/A

**Change to:** Add 9. Any MFTHBA Officer may not concurrently serve on the board in any other equine organization.

**Reason for change:** MFTHBA officers may negotiate or sign contracts on behalf of the MFTHBA. When individuals serves on the board of other equine organizations, especially those that do business with the MFTHBA, it creates of conflict of interest. This reflects poorly on the MFTHBA.

Page 68 C 2. Professional Status

**Current Rule:** Professional Status: A person 18 years of age or older as of January 1of the current year becomes a professional for MFTHBA show purposes once he/she accepts remuneration for riding, training, or showing a horse in performance, model, or versatility classes.

**Change to:** Professional Status: **Any individual 18 years of age or older as of January 1 of the current year will be considered a professional if they accept remuneration to show, train, or assist in training a horse, or instruct another person in riding, driving, training or showing a horse (whether or not a registered Missouri Fox Trotting Horse).**

**Reason for change:** The current rule may be interrupted to say that an individual may receive money for training horses as long as they are not shown in performance, model, or versatility MFTHBA classes. The rule change would expand and clarify the professional rule to clarify that accepting any remuneration, other than the exceptions listed in the Amateur Rule, classifies an individual as a professional.