

Mid York Beekeepers Association

Bylaws

Article I - NAME

The name of the organization is the Mid York Beekeepers Association. The organization hereinafter shall, in these Bylaws, be referred to the “the Club” or MYBA”.

Article II - AIMS OF THE ORGANIZATION

The objectives and purposes of the Club is to:

1. Educate beekeepers about current trends and issues related to beekeeping.
2. Educate the public to the benefits of honeybees for pollination of crops. And for their byproducts (honey, wax, pollen).
3. Maintain awareness of all state and national laws related to beekeeping, production, and marketing products of hives.
4. Aid in the development of programs people desiring to become beekeepers.
5. Present education programs for the general public.
6. Serve as a resource in the community for addressing problems and concerns about stinging insects.
7. Foster interactions with agricultural community and other beekeeping organizations.
8. Provide feedback to state and national organizations regarding issues important to beekeeping.

Article III - MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the organization is of one kind: Active.

Section A - Active Membership

1. Any person who is regularly enrolled in the Club and has paid dues.
2. The active member shall be considered in good standing when:
 - The member attends meetings.
 - The member shows interest and takes part in the affairs of the Club.
 - The member pays dues regularly and acts in a manner consistent with the ideals of the Club.
 - Adheres to the Club’s Code of Conduct. (Addendum A)
3. Active members may be eligible to vote in general membership meetings. One membership may cast one vote

Article IV - GOVERNANCE

Section A - Officers

The elected offices of the Club shall be President, 1st Vice President, 2^d Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and immediate Past President.

President: shall preside over the meetings of the Club and over meetings of the Executive Board. The President shall appoint all committees and may serve as Ex Officio of these committees. It is also the President's duty to represent the Club in all state and national meetings when possible.

President Duties

1. Preside at Club and Executive Board meetings.
2. Call special meetings as needed.
3. Confer with Secretary about meeting notices and other correspondence.
4. Confer with 1st Vice President about meeting notices and the program agenda of the meeting.
5. Appoint committees in cooperation with the officer responsible for certain committees.
6. Represent the Club at state and national meetings or designate someone to act on his/her behalf.

Vice President: under the direction of the President to care for the welfare of the Club. In case the office of the President becomes vacant, the 1st Vice president shall assume the duties of the President, followed in turn by the 2^d Vice President.

1st Vice President Duties

1. Care for the welfare of the Club.
2. Assume the duties of the President in his/her absence.
3. Encouraged to become President upon vacancy of the office.

2^d Vice President Duties

1. Assume duties of the President when he/she and 1st Vice President are absent.

Secretary: shall perform the duties common to such an office and other duties as directed by the executive Board.

Secretary Duties

1. Send meeting notices to members.
2. Maintain a current mailing list.
3. Record minutes at all meetings and present them at the following meeting.
4. Write correspondence on behalf of the Club.
5. Confer with the President and the program chairperson to obtain information for the meeting notices.

Treasurer: shall be responsible for the custody of all funds and other assets of the organization except as otherwise directed by the Executive board. The Treasurer shall keep records of all dues, and perform other such duties that may be described but the Executive Board.

Treasurer Duties

1. Be responsible for all funds of the Club with the funds placed in a checking account, with signatories on file.
2. Keep accurate and detailed financial records for the fiscal year.
3. Present a treasurer's report at all meetings, stating all income and expenditures for the period, and a balance.
4. Pay all bills as directed by the President.

Immediate Past President: shall assist the President in coordinating committee activities and perform other duties as assigned by the President.

Webmaster: shall monitor the Club's website to assure that it stays online, functions without flaw, and keeps content up to date.

Section B - Executive Board

The Executive Board shall include Officers as defined herein. It shall be the duties of the Executive Board to advise and make recommendations to the Club with respect to the conduct of the activities and purpose of the Club. The Executive Board can act upon matters of immediate concern and are obligated to present their actions at the next general membership meeting.

The Executive Board of the Club shall consist of, in order or rank, President, 1st Vice President, 2^d Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Board of Directors, and Immediate Past President. No member of the Executive Board shall receive, directly or indirectly, any salary or compensation for services rendered on behalf of the Club. All members of the Executive Board are eligible to vote on Club business. The executive Board shall be the authority of the interpretation of these Bylaws.

Section C - Board of Directors

The elected Board of Directors for the Club shall consist of the current officers, the immediate past President, five (5) elected Directors and one (1) elected Alternate Director/ The elected Directors shall be elected to office by a majority vote of the members present at the Annual Membership Meeting.

1. To be qualified serve as a Director of the Club, an individual is to have been an Active Member in good standing with the Club for a minimum of one year.
2. Three Directors will be elected/re-elected each year.
3. Should any Director resign, be removed from office, or be disqualified for any reason, the President may appoint a successor to fill the unexpired term.
4. The business and affairs of the Club shall be managed by the Board of Directors in accordance with the Club's purpose and consistent with the directives of the membership.

On addition to the powers and authority expressly conferred upon it by these Bylaws, the Board of Directors may exercise all such powers of the Club and do all such lawful acts as directed or required by the members or officers that are not prohibited by law, by the articles of incorporation, or by these Bylaws.

5. The Directors will meet quarterly at a minimum to carry out the duties required of it.

Section D - Bylaws Committee

Shall report to the Secretary. It shall be the responsibility of the Bylaws Committee to be familiar with the Club Bylaws and the Certificate of Incorporation. The Bylaws Committee shall prepare amendments to the Club Bylaws in keeping with the objectives and purposes of the Club and as directed by the Executive Board. All proposed amendments shall be submitted for ratification in accordance with Article VIII, Section 2.

Section E - Nominations

The Nominating Committee, consisting of five members appointed by the President, shall present a slate of candidates at the September meeting of the even year. Said candidates must be members in good standing for at least six months.

Section F - Elections of Officer and Directors

Shall be by a majority vote of the membership present at the December meeting of the even year.

Section G - Term of Office

The newly elected officers and directors shall hold their respective offices for a two (2) year term, limited to two (2) consecutive terms. Officers and directors may be removed from their office at President's discretion if they miss meetings: three (3) consecutive or four (4) in a twelve (12) month period.

Section H - Vacancy

If a vacancy occurs, an alternate is to be proposed by the President and approved by a majority of members present at the next Club meeting. The alternate shall finish the term limit.

Article V - MEETINGS

Section A - Association Meetings

Regular Club meetings shall be held the 2^d Tuesday of every month. Members in good standing shall be notified by email of the time, location, and substance, five days prior to the meeting.

Section B - Executive Board Meetings

The meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at such a place and time as may be prescribed by the Executive Board. Special meeting may be called at any time by the President. Notice of the meetings shall be given to each member of the Board five (5) days prior to the meeting.

Article VI - FISCAL YEAR

Section A

The fiscal year of the Club shall be the calendar year.

Section B

Books and records of the Club may be inspected by any member or members at any reasonable time.

Article VII - DUES

Section A

Dues shall be collected for the membership year (January 1 and ending December 31) payable no later than March 1st.

Section B

New members joining between September 1 and December 31 will have their dues applied to the following year.

The amount of the dues is to be recommended by the Executive Board, subject to approval of the Club membership.

Article VIII - AMENDMENTS

Proposed amendments and additions to the constitution and bylaws may be submitted to the Executive Board. All proposed amendments to the constitution and by laws shall be accepted if approved by a two-thirds vote of members present at a regular Club meeting.

AMENDMENT OF THE BYLAWS

Section A - ratification of the Bylaws

These bylaws shall become effective immediately upon ratification by two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the Club, providing that the proposed text of the Bylaws shall have been made available to the entire membership at least ten days before such meeting.

Section S - Ratification of Amendments

The Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the the Club, providing that the proposed text of the amendment has been previously submitted in writing and reviewed by the Bylaws Committee in accordance with Article IV, Section D, and the proposed text shall hav been made available to the entire membership at least two days before such meeting.

ADDENDUM A

Beekeeping Organization Code of Conduct

Effective Date: [Date]

Introduction:

This Code of Conduct outlines the principles and guidelines that all members, volunteers, and stakeholders of the Mid York Beekeepers Association are expected to follow. The aim of this code is to create a respectful, inclusive, and ethical environment for beekeeping enthusiasts and professionals, promoting the well-being of bees, the sustainability of beekeeping practices, and the growth of the organization.

1. Respect and Inclusion:

We value diversity and treat all members with respect and kindness. Discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any form, including but not limited to race, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, and abilities, will not be tolerated.

2. Ethical Beekeeping:

Members are expected to adhere to ethical beekeeping practices that prioritize the health and well-being of bees. This includes providing proper nutrition, disease management, and hive maintenance. The use of harmful chemicals and pesticides should be minimized, and natural alternatives should be explored whenever possible.

3. Sustainability:

We encourage environmentally sustainable practices. Members are encouraged to adopt techniques that minimize negative impacts on local ecosystems, water resources, and biodiversity.

4. Continuous Learning:

Beekeeping practices and knowledge are ever-evolving. Members are encouraged to stay informed about the latest advancements and trends in beekeeping through workshops, seminars, and sharing experiences within the organization.

5. Collaboration:

Members are encouraged to collaborate and share their knowledge, experiences, and resources with fellow beekeepers. Cooperation promotes the growth of the organization and the success of individual members.

6. Safety:

Members should prioritize safety in all beekeeping activities. Proper protective gear should be worn when working with bees, and safety protocols should be followed at all times.

7. Transparency:

Open and honest communication is essential. Members should provide accurate information about their beekeeping practices, experiences, and challenges, contributing to a culture of trust within the organization.

8. Community Engagement:

We encourage members to actively engage with their local communities to raise awareness about the importance of bees and beekeeping. Public education and outreach programs can help dispel misconceptions and promote responsible beekeeping practices.

9. Conflict Resolution:

In cases of disagreements or conflicts, members should seek resolution through respectful and constructive communication. If necessary, the organization's leadership can assist in mediating disputes.

10. Compliance:

Members are expected to abide by all local laws and regulations related to beekeeping. Any activities that violate these laws or regulations may result in disciplinary actions.

11. Adherence to Bylaws:

Members are required to follow the organization's bylaws, guidelines, and policies. These documents are in place to maintain the organization's integrity and mission.

12. Reporting Violations:

If a member becomes aware of any violations of this Code of Conduct, they are encouraged to report the incident to the organization's leadership. All reports will be treated confidentially and investigated thoroughly.

By adhering to this Code of Conduct, we create a supportive and nurturing environment for beekeepers, bees, and the community at large. We appreciate your commitment to upholding these principles and contributing to the growth and success of Mid York Beekeepers Association.

This Code of Conduct is subject to updates and revisions as necessary. It is the responsibility of all members to stay informed about any changes.