

**BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON SCATTER CREEK RIDERS
CHAPTER BYLAWS (Jan. 2023)**

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be “Back Country Horsemen of Washington, Scatter Creek Riders Chapter”, hereinafter referred to as SCR. It shall be a chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Washington, which is incorporated as a non-profit organization without issuance of stock, here in after referred to as BCHW. SCR herein adopts the BCHW bylaws and standing rules and shall be subject to the terms and conditions of Washington Nonprofit Corporation Act.

ARTICLE II – MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of this organization shall be:

1. To perpetuate the common-sense use and enjoyment of horses in America’s back country and wilderness.
2. To work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
3. To assist the various governmental and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
4. To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
5. To foster and encourage new members in SCR and BCHW.

SCR shall at no time conduct any activity which will jeopardize the BCHW current nonprofit status or qualification as a charitable organization under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3).

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1

Any person, who subscribes to the mission of BCHW by application and payment of current annual SCR and BCHW dues, may become a member. Memberships may be individual or family. For purposes of this rule, an individual must have reached their 18th birthday and a family includes an adult, their spouse or partner, and the children in their household. 'Children in the household' includes children residing in the home under age 18, and children age 18 to 23, who are residents of the household, dependent upon the family for support, and actively enrolled in a formal education program. All household members 18 years of age or older shall sign the BCHW membership application.

Section 2

For youth membership see BCHW Standing Rule NO. 2021-6

Section 3

Any member whose conduct may adversely reflect on the integrity of the chapter may be denied membership and forfeiture of chapter dues. Reasons for removal of a member may include but are not limited to the following: consistent behavior contrary to the mission statement of Back Country Horsemen of Washington, theft of chapter funds or tools, and/or actions or behaviors that foster negativity amongst club members affecting the good will of the club.

If the board deems such action to be in the best interest of the chapter, a notice of proposed removal must be given to the member at least 20 days prior to the next membership meeting. The notice to the member must state the cause for the proposed removal and inform the member of the right to present witness or other evidence on their behalf to the membership. The proposed removal of the member will be discussed at the first meeting following the member's notification and will be voted upon by members by secret ballot at the next chapter meeting. Passage requires a simple majority.

Section 4

Annual SCR dues shall be set by the Board of Directors, hereinafter called the Board, based on the budgeted needs of the chapter. The membership must ratify any change of dues by a simple majority vote at a chapter meeting. The change in dues shall be effective for the next fiscal year. The dues shall be listed in each issue of the chapter newsletter.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND VOTING

Section 1

Meetings of the chapter membership, hereinafter called Membership Meetings, shall be held to conduct any business of the chapter not delegated by the membership to the chapter board and will be held at a time and location decided by a simple majority vote of the members present and voting. Special Meetings, if needed, may be called by the President by giving the membership reasonable notice depending on the circumstances.

Section 2

Each adult member in good standing, and present at a general membership meeting, shall be entitled to 1 vote on any issue that comes before the membership. Children ages 18 through 23 included in a Family Membership are not eligible to vote. Members must be present at the meeting to vote. At least ten (10) SCR members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3

In the event an emergency or natural disaster makes the holding of an in-person meeting of the membership unlawful or impossible, the membership may conduct its meetings by electronic or other remote access means as reasonably necessary for the duration of the emergency or disaster. The membership shall use its best efforts to implement any such virtual meetings with full regard for the need to maintain as much as possible accessibility for all members, including those with disabilities and those who lack access to sophisticated technology tools. Any action that could be taken at an in-person meeting, including bylaws amendments, may also be taken at a virtual

meeting held pursuant to this clause. Virtual meetings shall comply with the requirements of Sections 1 and 2 above.

ARTICLE V - BOARD MEETINGS AND VOTING

Section 1

Board of Directors Meetings, hereinafter called Board Meetings, shall be scheduled by the President as needed. The Board members may call for a Board Meeting by a majority vote of the Board members voting, after having notified all the board members.

Section 2

The Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President, State Director, alternate State Director, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 3

Each Board member will have one vote with a simple majority ruling on all actions, except as called for in these bylaws. Board members holding more than one Board position will have only one vote. A quorum to conduct chapter business requires fifty percent of the Board to be present.

Section 4

The Board shall have the powers and duties necessary or appropriate as granted to it by the members, for administration of the affairs of the chapter. Approval of bylaw and standing rule changes are specifically retained by the membership. The Board will develop and manage an annual budget. The Board will act on the President's nominations for committee chairs, approval requiring a majority vote of those present and voting.

Section 5

If an elected or appointed office becomes vacant at any time during the term of office, the President shall appoint a replacement subject to approval of the Board by a majority vote of those present and voting. Such replacement shall serve the balance of the unexpired term of the officer whose position had become vacant.

Section 6

No power or authority shall be granted to any chapter officer or Board of Directors to bind newly elected officers or directors for subsequent years.

Section 7

In the event an emergency or natural disaster makes the holding of an in-person meeting of the Board unlawful or impossible, the board may conduct its meetings by electronic or other remote access means as necessary for the duration of the emergency or disaster. The Board shall use its best efforts to implement any such virtual meetings with full regard for the need to maintain as much as possible accessibility for all board members, including those with disabilities and those who lack access to sophisticated technology tools. Any action that could be taken at an in-person meeting, including bylaws amendments, may also be taken at a virtual meeting held

pursuant to this clause. Virtual meetings shall comply with the requirements of Sections 1 through 6 above.

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND CHAIRS TERMS OF OFFICE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Section 1

The term of office for all officers and chairs, except State Director & Alternate State Director, shall be one year. The term of office for State Director and Alternate State Director shall be two years, and elected on alternate years. The election of officers shall take place at the November Chapter Meeting with the new officers' term starting as of January 1st. Officers and chairs may succeed themselves in office, and shall serve until their successor has been duly elected or appointed and installed. Officers and Committee Chairs shall serve without compensation.

Section 2

An individual running for any office or appointment must be a chapter member and have reached the age of 18.

Section 3

The Board may remove or declare an appointed Board position vacant by unanimous ballot of those present and voting, the affected officer abstaining. Such action would result from inattention to duties and/or responsibilities, failure to attend three or more consecutive Board meetings without excusable cause or conduct that may adversely reflect on the integrity of the chapter. If the Board deems such action is in the best interest of the chapter, notice of proposed removal must be given to the affected officer a minimum of twenty (20) days prior to the Board Meeting date at which time such removal will be voted upon. The notice to the member must state the cause for the proposed removal and inform the member of the right to present witness or other evidence on their behalf to the membership.

Section 4

The Board may recommend the removal of a person from an elected position by unanimous ballot of those present and voting, the affected officer abstaining. Such action would result from inattention to duties and/or responsibilities, failure to attend three or more consecutive Board meetings without excusable cause or conduct that may adversely reflect on the integrity of the chapter. If the Board deems such action is in the best interest of the chapter, notice of proposed removal must be given to the affected officer a minimum of twenty (20) days prior to the Membership Meeting date at which time such removal will be voted upon by the membership. Passage requires a simple majority of those present and voting. The notice to the officer must state the cause for the proposed removal and inform the member of the right to present witness or other evidence on their behalf to the membership.

ARTICLE VII -ELECTED OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1

The elected officers of the chapter shall include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, State Director, and Alternate State Director.

Section 2

The President shall chair all Membership Meetings and Board Meetings. The President shall appoint such committees as may be necessary and appropriate to conduct the business of the chapter subject to approval of the Board. In addition, the President is the chief executive and administrative officer and legal head of the chapter and will exercise supervision over the chapter and all its activities.

Section 3

The Vice President shall preside over Membership Meetings and/or Board Meetings in the absence of the President. The Vice President shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 4

The State Director shall be a member of the BCHW Board of Directors and represent the chapter membership at state meetings, and shall inform the appropriate state officer of activities and/or concerns relative to the chapter's area. The State Director shall represent and promote the interests and purposes of BCHW in the chapter's area. The State Director or Alternate State Director MUST attend all BCHW Board and/or Officer meetings or send a responsible person in their place.

Section 5

The Alternate State Director shall perform the duties of the State Director in the absence of the State Director, and attend all BCHW Board and/or officer meetings possible with the State Director, in an effort to stay current with BCHW matters. If the State Director position becomes vacant the Alternate State Director will complete that Director's term.

Section 6

The Secretary works under the direction of the President. The Secretary shall keep clear and accurate records of the business transacted at all meetings of the chapter, and maintain a book of minutes for the chapter. In addition, the Secretary maintains the official chapter records of SCR with the exception of financial records kept by the Treasurer.

Section 7

The Treasurer works under the direction of the President. The Treasurer shall comply with current BCHW central accounting policies and procedures including BCHW Standing Rule 2021-2. Chapter financial records will be sufficient to reconcile with BCHW centralized accounting. The Treasurer will keep records of chapter membership dues paid. The Treasurer will produce monthly financial statements for the President and render periodic financial reports to the Board. The Treasurer will present any bills that exceed the approved budget to the Board for approval. The Treasurer shall also serve as financial officer for chapter functions involving the handling of significant funds, such as, but not limited to, general chapter membership

meetings and chapter fund-raisers. The Treasurer may, subject to the President's approval, appoint an SCR member to serve as Treasurer Pro Tem at any major function the Treasurer cannot attend. The Treasurer shall produce a financial report for each major event or fund-raiser.

ARTICLE VIII – APPOINTED COMMITTEES

Section 1

The Work Party Boss is responsible for developing the work party calendar and overseeing the work parties. They shall have the final judgement in matters of trail condition, safety, horsemanship, and personal conduct at all work parties.

Section 2

The Trail Boss is responsible for developing the trail ride calendar and overseeing the trail rides. They shall have the final judgement in matters of trail condition, safety, horsemanship and personal conduct at all trail rides.

Section 3

The Membership Development Chair shall be responsible for coordinating the membership renewal process, maintaining a current membership list and the development of new memberships. The chair will develop and manage membership-input programs and/or surveys to aid in the future direction of the chapter.

Section 4

The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible for production of the chapter newsletter on a timetable approved by the Board.

Section 5

The Education Chair shall develop and administer an education program to educate all interested users of public lands in the principles of 'Leave No Trace' camping and land use and other topics of interest to the chapter members. The Chair shall also coordinate efforts with the BCHW Education Chair whenever possible.

Section 6

The Legislative Chair shall keep the members, and others, informed of all legislative matters that pertain to stock use in the chapter's area. The Chair shall also coordinate efforts with the BCHW Legislative Chairs whenever possible.

Section 7

The Public Lands Chair shall keep the members, and others, informed of all public lands matters that pertain to stock use in Washington State public lands. The Chair shall also coordinate efforts with the BCHW Public Lands Chair whenever possible.

ARTICLE IX - HOUSE KEEPING

Section 1

The chapter's fiscal year shall be January 1st through December 31st. The term of officers and chairs shall be January 1st through December 31st. The membership year shall be January 1st through December 31st.

Section 2

Robert's Rules of Order is adopted as a guideline for conduct of all meetings as long as consistent with these bylaws and applicable. A simple majority vote of those present and voting at any meeting may suspend the rules of procedure. The President may serve as Parliamentarian, or may appoint a Parliamentarian. The decision of the Parliamentarian shall be final in all questions of procedure.

Section 3

At the 1st of January each year, or with change of Treasurers, there shall be a review and report to the Board of the chapter's financial records by a committee consisting of not less than two (2) members selected by the President and approved by the Board.

Section 4

Upon dissolution of the chapter, any unexpended chapter funds and assets will be distributed to BCHW.

Section 5

If any provision of these bylaws is determined to be unlawful or unenforceable by any court, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

ARTICLE X - BYLAW AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these bylaws shall be proposed in writing and submitted to the Board. If approved by a simple majority vote of those present and voting of the Board, the proposed bylaw change(s) shall then be submitted to the membership for consideration. These bylaws may be amended or repealed by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voting members of the membership present and voting at a regular meeting of the membership provided a quorum of the membership is present. Any proposed change to the bylaws shall be distributed to the membership at least 20 days prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE XI - ADOPTION

These bylaws as adopted on this 11th day of January, 2023, hereby supersede all previous bylaws of Back Country Horsemen of Washington, Scatter Creek Riders Chapter.

IN WITNESS whereof, the undersigned, as per the resolution duly passed by the membership in the January meeting, do hereby adopt and ratify these existing bylaws of the chapter.

Toni Stray _____
President