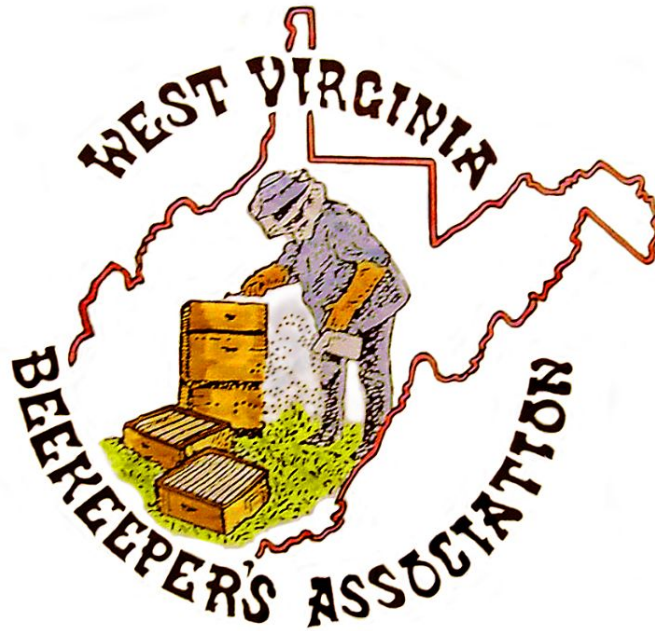


# West Virginia Beekeepers Association



## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Adopted by a majority vote of the general membership at an annual meeting on September 24, 1977 at the Peterkin Conference Center, Romney West Virginia and incorporating amendments passed on:  
September 23, 1978 at Camp Caesar,  
September 19, 1981 at the Caravan Restaurant,  
September 18, 1982 at Camp Caesar,  
October 16, 1993 at Bishop Hodges Pastoral Center,  
September 29, 2000 at Cedar Lakes Conference Center  
September 28, 2001 at Cedar Lakes Conference Center  
September 24, 2004 at Cedar Lakes Conference Center  
April 19, 2008 at Jackson County Junior Fairgrounds

# CONSTITUTION

## Article I

**Section 1.** The purpose of the organization shall be to promote the general interest in the pursuit of bee culture.

**Section 2.** The name of this association shall be “West Virginia Beekeepers Association”.

## ARTICLE II

### Membership

**Section 1.** The membership shall consist of beekeepers and others interested in beekeeping or allied activities who have paid membership dues.

**Section 2.** Any person may be elected to honorary membership with the approval of the Executive Board.

## ARTICLE III

### Officers

**Section 1.** The officers of the Association shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Duties and terms of the officers shall be specified in the by-laws. A single person may serve as both Secretary and Treasurer.

Revised 9/24/04

## ARTICLE IV

### Executive Board

**Section 1.** The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, at-large members, one member selected by each of the associated organizations, the immediate past president of the West Virginia Beekeepers Association, the State Apiarist, the EAS Director and the Director of the West Virginia Master Beekeeper Program. Revised 9/24/04

**Section 2.** The Executive Board shall meet at the request of the President and shall have the power to transact all business of the Association.

## ARTICLE V

### Election of Officers

**Section 1.** The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected as specified in the by-laws. Revised 9/24/04

**Section 2.** Vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the President, subject to approval of the Executive Board.

## ARTICLE VI

### Associate Organizations

**Section 1.** All local beekeeping organizations wishing to become associates of the West Virginia Beekeepers Association may do so by paying the annual membership dues per member as specified in the by-laws. Such payment will result in each member of the local organization becoming a voting member of the West Virginia Beekeepers Association and entitle the local organization to one member on the Executive Board.

## ARTICLE VII

### General

**Section 1.** A quorum at any general meeting shall consist of fifteen members. A quorum of the Executive Board shall be ten members. Revised 9/24/04

**Section 2.** This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds majority vote at any meeting of the general membership provided the members are notified in writing of the proposed changes at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **Membership**

**Section 1.** There shall be three types of membership: direct membership, life membership and through a local association.

**Section 2.** The dues for direct membership will be \$7.00 per calendar year and through a local organization will be \$6.00 per calendar year. Dues for Life Membership will be equivalent to ten years of dues at the current rate. **Revised 4-19-08**

### **Duties of Officers**

**Section 3.** The President shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association. He/she shall preside at all meetings of the Association and the Executive Board. He/she shall appoint standing and special committees and shall be an ex-officio member of these committees. He/she shall appoint members to special offices as set forth in these by-laws.

**Section 4.** The Vice-President shall perform the functions of the President in his/her absence or disability. He/she shall be chairman of the West Virginia Beekeepers Association Honey Show Committee.

**Section 5.** The Secretary shall attend to and keep a full and correct record of all meetings of the Association, shall conduct the correspondence of the Association under the direction of the President and shall give or cause to be given notice of all meetings. **Revised 9/24/04**

**Section 6.** The Treasurer shall receive all monies and deposit them to the credit of the Association in a place determined by the Executive Board. He/she shall pay bills approved by the Executive Board and supported by receipts. He/she shall submit reports of the activities and of the financial status of the Association at the annual meeting. He/she shall be responsible for the official roster of the WVBA, the same to be shared with other offices. **Revised 9/24/04**

### **Elections**

**Section 7.** The terms of the office of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be two years. Elections shall occur at the Fall meeting in odd numbered years. The officers shall assume their duties immediately and serve until their successors have been elected. **Revised 9/24/04**

**Section 8.** There shall be four members-at-large elected to the Executive Board. They shall serve 2-year terms, with two elected each year at the Fall meeting. A good faith effort shall be made so that at least one of the members-at-large shall be a member of the WVBA who is not a member of any affiliated beekeeper organization. **Revised 4-19-08**

**Section 9.** The Nominating Committee shall present their nominations at the annual meeting. These, together with any nominations from the floor, will be voted upon by the general membership. The candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected.

**Section 10.** When more than one candidate is nominated for an office the election shall be by ballot. The President shall appoint three members to act as tellers who shall count the ballots and announce the result. When there is only one candidate for an office, the Secretary shall cast the ballot upon approval of a motion to that effect.

### **Meetings**

**Section 11.** There shall be two meetings of the association, one in the spring and one in the Fall, the Fall being the annual meeting. The dates and places of the meetings shall be determined by the Executive Board. Additional Association meetings may be held, as determined by the Executive Board, provided the membership is notified in writing at least fifteen days prior to the meeting.

### **Committees**

**Section 12.** There shall be a Nominating Committee appointed by the President at least three months prior to election.

**Section 13.** There shall be a West Virginia Honey Festival Activities Committee. It shall be responsible for the Association's display and for the presentation of the award to the Beekeeper of the Year.

**Section 14.** There shall be a Program Committee. It shall be responsible for the planning of the annual meeting.

**Section 15.** There shall be a West Virginia Beekeepers Association Honey Show Committee. It shall be responsible for promoting the Fall Honey Show among members, obtaining judges, registering participants and awarding prizes.

**Section 16.** There shall be a Legislative and Agricultural Activities Committee. It shall be responsible for promoting a positive image of beekeeping and of the West Virginia Beekeepers Association to the state legislature and other state officials. It shall present the Association's concerns, viewpoints and requests for action to the West Virginia Department of Agriculture.

**Section 17.** There shall be a Finance and Budget Committee. It shall be responsible for presenting a yearly budget for Board approval. It shall monitor finances and make recommendations concerning any investments. It shall submit a written report of the Association's financial status at each board meeting. An Annual Finance Report shall be included in the spring newsletter. **Revised 9/24/04**

### **Special Offices**

**Section 18.** The President, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, shall appoint a Newsletter Editor who will publish or cause to be published a newsletter prior to the spring and fall meetings and delivered to the association's paid members.

**Section 19.** The President, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, shall appoint a Historian. He/she shall keep the archives of the association, make a record and compose an annual narrative of its activities. The Historian will also endeavor to compose a narrative of the Association's past history.

**Section 20.** The President, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, shall appoint a Publicity Aide. He/she shall be responsible for publicizing the activities, meetings and positive contributions of the Association and its members in state and national publications.

### **West Virginia Beekeeper of the Year**

**Section 21.** The association, at the Fall meeting, shall select by ballot, the West Virginia Beekeeper of the Year from nominations submitted by member associations. To be accepted, the nominations must be received in writing prior to the meeting. The secretary shall present the candidates to the Association. To vote a person must be a member of the Association and registered at the meeting. Voting by proxy is not permitted. The Beekeeper of the Year award will be presented at the West Virginia Honey Festival.

### **EAS, HAS, MAAREC**

**Section 22.** The State Association shall be a member of the Eastern Apicultural Society. The President, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, shall appoint a member to be the Association's representative to the respective Board of Directors. The State Association shall also be a member of Heartland Apiculture Society and Mid-Atlantic Apiculture Research and Extension Consortium. **Revised 4-10-08.**

**Section 23.** Each Year the President, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, shall appoint a member to be a delegate to the EAS convention.

### **Amendments**

**Section 24.** These by-laws may be changed at any general meeting by a majority vote, provided the members are notified in writing of the proposed changes at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Voting by proxy is not permitted.