



## NATIONAL MINI REX RABBIT CLUB

### CONSTITUTION

#### ARTICLE I - Name

Section 1. The name of this association shall be the National Mini Rex Rabbit Club. (A non-profit corporation.) Hereafter may be referred to as NMRRC.

#### ARTICLE II – Objectives

Section 1. To maintain and improve the breeding and exhibition of all varieties of Mini Rex Rabbits.

Section 2. To provide memberships to all persons interested in promoting and/or supporting the Mini Rex Breed.

Section 3. To develop and create greater interest and demand for the Mini Rex rabbit for exhibition and as pets.

Section 4. To work in close cooperation with the American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc. in maintaining and improving the Mini Rex Standard of Perfection.

Section 5. To maintain a sweepstakes system to promote the exhibition of Mini Rex rabbits.

Section 6. To acknowledge the Youth of the NMRRC, positively promote and support youth activities, and provide leadership opportunities for the youth within the NMRRC.

#### ARTICLE III - Affiliation

Section 1. This Club shall be affiliated with the American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc. (Hereinafter may be referred to as ARBA.)

Section 2. Any regional or state Mini Rex Specialty Club whose organization is in accord with that of the NMRRC may apply for affiliation by submitting a completed affiliation application, with payment of the appropriate fee and approval of the NMRRC

Secretary. A copy of the applicant club's Constitution and By-Laws and a list of the club's officers must accompany the application.

Section 3. All officers of any local, district or state Mini Rex Specialty Club must be members of the ARBA, the NMRRC and that club must include this provision in its Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 4. The NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer shall review the affiliation application and if found to be in compliance shall issue a certificate of affiliation with the National Mini Rex Rabbit Club, Inc.

#### ARTICLE IV – Membership

Section 1. Any person may apply for membership by submitting a completed membership application along with payment of one (1) years dues. (Adults - Nineteen (19) years of age or older and Youth - up to Nineteen (19) years of age) to the Secretary/Treasurer of the NMRRC. By submitting an application for membership the applicant agrees to comply with all rules, regulations and mandates of the NMRRC.

Section 2. The Board of Directors reserves the right to accept or reject, for just cause, any application for membership.

Section 3. Term of membership begins and shall be acknowledged by the issuance of a membership card by the Secretary/Treasurer of this organization.

Section 4. All adult members shall have the right to vote by mail for election of officers and/or sign petitions for elective members of the NMRRC Board of Directors and put forward proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 5. Members may not vote by proxy.

Section 6. Application for lifetime Membership may be made by anyone over forty (40) years of age and payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). Anyone over sixty (60) years of age may become a Life Member upon payment of Sixty Dollars (\$60.00).

Section 7. The Board of Directors may grant Life Membership to individuals whom they determine to be deserving of this honor. These individuals shall be entitled to all membership privileges.

Section 8. The Executive Board may elect as an Honorary Member, any person distinguished for his/her political, scientific, industrial or administrative capacity. Honorary members shall be exempt from all dues, fees or subscriptions and shall be entitled to receive the newsletter. Honorary members shall have no right to vote on any

matter of this Association and shall not be entitled to earn sweepstakes points unless also a paid member in good standing of this Association.

#### ARTICLE V – Officers

Section 1. The elected officers of the NMRRC shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer and nine (9) District Directors and shall be elected by simple majority of the mail ballot from the club's membership.

Section 2. The Newsletter Editor shall be appointed by the president with majority approval of the NMRRC Board of Directors for a term of two (2) years. Said appointments to take place in odd numbered years and be made within 30 days of the conclusion of the annual meeting.

Section 3. The officers of this Club shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer and nine (9) District Directors.

Section 4. The District Directors shall be elected by and from the membership in his/her geographical district. The nine (9) geographical districts shall be the same as those of the ARBA:

- District 1: Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, Canada, (Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, & Yukon Territory) & Japan.
- District 2: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah, & Mexico.
- District 3: Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota & Wisconsin.
- District 4: Arkansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma & Texas.
- District 5: Illinois, Kansas & Missouri.
- District 6: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee & Puerto Rico.
- District 7: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, Canada (Quebec, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia).
- District 8: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, & Canada (Manitoba & Ontario).
- District 9: Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, Washington D.C., West Virginia, & other Foreign.

Section 5. Any adult member, in order to be eligible for office, must be actively engaged in the breeding of Mini Rex Rabbits and must have been a member in good standing of this club for not less than 1 year prior to becoming a candidate for office.

Anyone (1) member may not hold more than one (1) position on the NMRRC Board of Directors. No youth may hold office in the NMRRC.

Section 6. All elected members of NMRRC Board of Directors shall be granted a two (2) year term of office. The Vice-President and five (5) Directors representing Districts 1, 3, 5, 7 & 9 shall be elected in even numbered years. The President, Secretary/Treasurer and four (4) Directors representing Districts 2, 4, 6, & 8 shall be elected in odd numbered years.

Section 7. Terms of new-elected officers shall begin immediately upon adjournment of the Annual Meeting.

Section 8. Vacancies in any office, for any reason, shall be filled by appointment by the President, subject to a two-thirds (2/3) majority approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 9. The President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer must reside in at least two different geographical Districts.

Section 10. At no time may any two (2) or more members from the same household occupy a position on the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE VI – Discipline

Section 1. The NMRRC Board of Directors may suspend or expel any member or reject a membership application or renewal, for conduct which in its judgment warrants such action. Any person expelled or refused membership shall not be reconsidered for membership for a period of two (2) years following expulsion or rejection.

Section 2. Any charge brought against a member for misconduct and /or misdoing, must be made in writing and signed by the author and forwarded to the Secretary/Treasurer. The NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer shall inform the NMRRC Board of Directors of the receipt of a complaint. The NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer will send a copy of the complaint to the accused member by registered mail within 10 days of receipt. The accused member shall have thirty (30) days from date of the mailing to respond to the complaint in writing. Said response to be forwarded to the NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer by registered mail. Upon receipt of the response the NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer shall forward copies of the original complaint and the response to the NMRRC Board of Directors for their review and determination of any necessary action. In the event the accused member fails to respond to the NMRRC Secretary/treasurer as set forth above, said person shall be removed from the membership files and shall have no right to appeal such action.

Section 3. Any Officer or Director, who becomes delinquent in his /her dues, shall be notified by the NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer by registered mail. If membership dues

are not received within thirty (30) days from the date of mailing, that office will be declared vacant and the President, per Constitution Article V, Section 8, shall as soon as possible, appoint a replacement to the vacated position.

Section 4. If any Officer or Director fails in the fulfillment of his duties and/or displays a lack of interest in NMRRC matters, the NMRRC Board of Directors may, by 2/3 majority vote, request that Officer or Director to resign. If he/she fails to resign, the NMRRC Board of Directors may, by 2/3 majority vote, declare the office vacant.

Section 5. In the event an officer and/or director has been removed from office pursuant to Section 4 of this Article, said person shall be ineligible to offer a petition, be appointed and/or run for any office for a period of three (3) years.

#### ARTICLE VII – Meetings

Section 1. The Annual Meeting of this Association shall be held during the annual ARBA Convention and Show.

Section 2. A General Membership meeting may be held during the National NMRRC Specialty Show; however, this meeting shall not replace the Annual Meeting.

Section 3. The President may call a meeting of the NMRRC Board of Directors at any time during the Annual ARBA Convention and Show, or the National NMRRC Specialty Show. The presence of five (5) members of the NMRRC Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum to conduct business.

Section 4. Should the need arise, the president may call a meeting of the NMRRC Board of Directors at any time by means of mail correspondence, telephone conference or electronic communication (i.e. email or fax transmission).

Section 5. Results of any mailed balloting among the NMRRC Board of Directors shall be kept on file in the office of Secretary/Treasurer's for a period two (2) years following the vote. A NMRRC Board of Director Member failing to report his/her vote to the President within ten (10) days of notification shall, by his/her silence, forfeit the right to vote.

#### ARTICLE VIII – Amendments

Section 1. Any member may submit a proposed amendment to the Constitution, By-Laws and Show Rules Committee by forwarding same to the Chairperson of said Committee by March 1th. The proposed amendment must be signed by twenty-five (25) adult members of the NMRRC in good standing.

Section 2. The Constitution, By-Laws and Show Rules Committee shall review said proposed amendment and forward same with their comments to the NMRRC Board of Directors by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Section 3. Any proposed amendment will be publish in the National Mini Rex News and then placed on the next ballot before the membership. For the amendment to be accepted, it must receive simple majority of the votes cast by the membership.

## BY-LAWS

### ARTICLE I – Membership Fees

Section 1. Membership fees shall be recommended by the NMRRC Board of Directors, subject to majority approval by the membership present at the Annual Meeting. Membership classifications are:

	USA Address:	Canadian/Foreign
Address:		
Youth.....	\$10.00	
Youth.....	\$20.00	
Adult.....	\$15.00	
Adult.....	\$27.00	
Husband/Wife.....	\$20.00	Husband/
Wife.....	\$33.00	
2 Adults Same Household.....	\$20.00	2 Adults Same
Household.....	\$33.00	
Family, all at the same address:		Family, all at the same
2 adults & up to 3 children	\$30.00	2 adults & up to 3
children	\$60.00	

Section 2. Application for Life Membership maybe made by anyone over forty (40) years of age upon payment of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) and or anyone over sixty (60) years of age upon payment of (\$100.00).

Section 3. The NMRRC Board of Directors may grant Life Membership to individuals whom they determine to be deserving of this honor. These individuals shall be entitled to all membership privileges.

Section 4. All members shall be notified by mail by the NMRRC Secretary/ Treasurer not less than thirty (30) days prior to membership expiration. On the date of membership expiration, the member shall have an additional thirty (30) days in which to renew their membership hereinafter referred to as “Grace Period. At the expiration of the

30 day Grace Period, said member failing to renew will be deleted from the membership files and shall forfeit all privileges and sweepstakes points

Section 5. Any member wishing to renew after the end of the grace period will be required to pay the membership rate for a new member.

## ARTICLE II – Duties of Officers

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings and act as Chairman of the Executive Committee (Board of Directors). He/She shall, with NMRRC Board of Directors approval, appoint all committees and fill all vacancies. He/She may appoint special committees as needed with no approval necessary from the NMRRC Board of Directors. He/She shall perform all other duties pertaining to that office. The President may vote only in the case of a tie. At all NMRRC meetings, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, NMRRC Board of Director shall elect a Board member to act as Chairperson for that particular meeting.

Section 2. The Vice-President shall perform all duties of the President in his/her absence or inability to serve. In case of vacancy of the president's office, the Vice-President shall succeed him/her in office.

Section 3. The NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer shall be custodian of all funds; shall maintain a bank account in the name of the NMRRC; shall maintain a complete set of books and records; shall receive and respond in a timely manner to membership applications; shall issue all show sanctions; shall be responsible for issuing all ballots, shall consult and advise the President on any unusual matters; shall furnish a quarterly report to the membership on the NMRRC's financial condition; shall pay all claims promptly as approved by the NMRRC or the NMRRC Board of Directors; shall maintain current membership files; shall notify members not less than thirty (30) days prior to membership expiration; shall perform such other duties as pertain to the office and/or requested by the NMRRC Board of Directors.

Section 4. NMRRC Board of Directors shall have the authority to make such laws, establish such rules and adopt such regulations as may be necessary for the government of its members; shall have the power to transact all necessary NMRRC business between meetings; carry out the instructions of the NMRRC; act upon charges brought to their attention; authorize expenditures; devise ways and means of carrying out the objects and purposes of the Club; formulate rules during the year not covered by the present Constitution and By-Laws; award the location of the annual NMRRC Specialty Show. Each member of the NMRRC Board of Directors shall, if possible, attend at least one Executive meeting per year and shall submit an article for inclusion in each quarterly newsletter. Each District Director shall represent the wishes of the members of his/her respective district. The District Director of the club sponsoring the NMRRC Specialty Show shall be responsible for overseeing the show and shall make sure an article is

submitted for publication in the newsletter giving all details of the show, including entry deadlines, hotel information, meeting time, etc.

Section 5. The President shall receive from the NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer and the Supply Chairperson, within thirty (30) days following assumption of office, a bond in an amount as established by the NMRRC Board of Directors, covering the respective assets of the club. Said bonding fees to be paid from club funds. The President will appoint a committee to perform an annual audit of the records of the Secretary/Treasurer and Supply Chairperson at the close of each fiscal year (September 30<sup>th</sup>), at the end of any Secretary/Treasurer or Supply Chairperson's retiring term and as requested by the NMRRC Board of Directors.

### ARTICLE III – Compensation

Section 1. The NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer shall receive an amount as established by the NMRRC Board of Directors.

Section 2. The NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer may be appointed as Pointskeeper, receiving all completed sanctions and if so appointed, shall receive an amount as established by the NMRRC Board of Directors for each sanction processed.

Section 3. Should a Sweepstakes Chairman (Pointskeeper) be appointed, he/she shall, for each sanction processed, receive an amount as established by the NMRRC Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Newsletter Editor shall receive an amount per page compensation for compilation and publication of the Newsletter. The amount shall be established by the NMRRC Board of Directors.

Section 5. An Advertising Assistant may be appointed by the NMRRC Board of Directors, for the purpose of securing new advertising for the quarterly newsletter. The Advertising Assistant shall receive twenty percent (20%) of the revenue received resulting from the advertising he/she secures for the newsletter.

Section 6. Supply Chairperson shall be paid a commission of fifteen percent (15%) of gross sales.

Section 7. All Officers and Committee Chairpersons will, with proper documentation, be reimbursed for necessary paper, postage and copy expenses.

Section 8. The President and NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer shall each receive \$100.00 for travel expenses to the Annual Membership Meeting held during the ARBA Convention and \$100.00 each for travel expenses to the annual NMRRC Specialty Show Meeting.

## ARTICLE IV – Standing Committees

Section 1. The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible for complete editing and publication of the NMRRC Newsletter four (4) times annually, mailing to occur (if possible) in the first month of each quarter. He/she shall receive and process all information pertaining to advertising and shall forward monies received to the Secretary/Treasurer on a timely basis. He/she shall, at all times, use the utmost discretion in editing any and all information received for articles and advertising. Any materials received and deemed to be of questionable nature shall be brought to the attention of the President.

Section 2. A Sweepstake Chairperson may be appointed at the discretion of the NMRRC Board of Directors. If so appointed, he/she shall promptly process all completed sanctions and shall provide an accurate report of all show results to the Newsletter Editor for publication.

Section 3. A Supply Chairperson shall be appointed to purchase and sell items promoting the Mini Rex Rabbit and the Mini Rex Rabbit Club. Design and choice of items shall be at the discretion of the Supply Chairperson, with approval by the President. Resale cost to be at the discretion of the Supply Chairperson, with approval by the President. The Supply Chairperson shall work in close cooperation with the NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer. The financial records of the Supply Chairperson shall be audited at the end of each fiscal year (September 30<sup>th</sup>), or as requested by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Election Committee shall consist of a chairperson and two (2) members, none of whom shall reside in the same County as the President or NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer. The Committee shall receive mailed ballots and verify results to the President and NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer within ten (10) days following poll closing. The Chairman shall retain all ballots for sixty (60) days following the close of election and shall then forward all ballots to the NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer. Results reports shall be kept on file in the NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer's office for a period of two (2) years.

Section 5. The Auditing Committee shall consist of a chairperson and one (1) or more members. No audit committee member may reside in the same District as the NMRRC Secretary /Treasurer. The committee shall be responsible for an annual audit of all the club's financial affairs and shall report their findings at the Annual Meeting. The Committee shall perform an audit at the end of any term of the NMRRC Secretary/ Treasurer and Supply Chairperson, or as requested by the NMRRC Board of Directors. The Committee shall provide a financial report to be printed in the Newsletter of any and all audits performed, to be printed in the following quarterly issue of the Newsletter.

Section 6. The Constitution, By-Laws and Show Rules Committee consisting of not less than three (3) persons shall be appointed for the purpose of reviewing, receiving

and/or proposing changes, amendments or resolutions to the Constitution and By-Laws and Show Rules. The Chairman shall be responsible for preparing and submitting any proposed changes, amendments or resolutions to the NMRRC Board of Directors prior to presentation for the general memberships' consideration. It shall further be the responsibility of the Chairman to assure publication of any and all proposed Constitution changes for the consideration of the general membership by ballot as provided in the Constitution.

Section 7. The Standards Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and four (4) members, at least one (1) of whom shall be a licensed ARBA Judge; no two (2) members may reside in the same state. They shall be responsible for maintaining a study of the Standard, receiving requests for working standards on new varieties, receive requests and proposals from the membership and notify the membership of these proposals in conjunction with election ballots. If changes are approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast, the Committee shall submit them to the ARBA Standards Committee with recommendations for adoption.

Section 8. The appointed Show Committee for the ARBA National Convention shall consist of a Breed Chairperson, Breed Superintendent, Breed Secretary, and any other supporting personnel as may be required. They shall be responsible for the proper care and showing of the entries, recording of show results, procurement of trophies and/or specials, operation of the NMRRC Booth and arrangements for the Annual Mini Rex Banquet and Meeting.

Section 9. NMRRC Specialty Show Committee shall be responsible for preparing and submitting show information for publication in the Jan/Feb/Mar issue of the Newsletter, including entry deadlines, hotel information, meeting time, etc. The District Director shall be responsible for overseeing the NMRRC Specialty Show Committee, making sure that all responsibilities and deadlines are met.

Section 10. The Auction Committee consisting of two (2) or more members shall be appointed for the purpose of conducting one (1) auction each year. The committee will select and auction quality Mini Rex Rabbits at the ARBA National Convention. Fifty percent (50%) of the sale price of the Mini Rex sold shall go to the NMRRC and the remaining fifty percent (50%) will go to the donor.

Section 11. All Standing Committees shall, with approval of the NMRRC Board of Directors by a simple majority, be appointed by the President. In addition to the aforementioned committees, the President, may appoint such other committees as may be necessary.

Section 12. All Standing Committees appointed for a two (2) year term in the same year as the President.

## ARTICLE V – Subsidiary Specialty Clubs

Section 1. Any Regional or State Mini Rex Specialty Club may apply for affiliation with the NMRRC as provided in NMRRC's Constitution, Article III.

Section 2. All Affiliated Clubs must agree to comply with the rules and regulations as stated in the NMRRC's Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 3. All affiliation fees are due and payable on or before January 1 of each year.

## ARTICLE VI – Election Procedures

Section 1. Any member in good standing desiring to become a candidate for office shall obtain a nomination petition from the NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer. This petition must be signed by at least ten (10) members in good standing and returned to the NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer with a profile or resume for printing in the Mini Rex News bulletin, postmarked no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>. The NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer shall then verify the applicant's eligibility and submit that nominee for inclusion on the election ballot. If the member is found to be ineligible for candidacy, the NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer shall notify him/her stating the reason for exclusion from the ballot.

Section 2. In the event that any office does not receive a nominee, the President shall appoint two (2) members of the NMRRC Board of Directors and one (1) member to assist in obtaining one or more nominees to complete the ballot.

Section 3. The NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for sending ballots to all eligible members. Ballots will be mailed to the membership no later than the first week of August. The reverse side of the ballot shall be blank.

Section 4. Ballots must be postmarked no later than September 1<sup>st</sup>. The Election Committee shall count all acceptable ballots and send a certified statement of the results to the President and NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer. This statement shall be retained in the files of the NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer for a period of two (2) years following the election.

Section 5. Facsimiles or copies of the ballots shall not be considered acceptable and will be declared void. Valid and voided ballots shall, sixty (60) days following the election be forwarded to the NMRRC Secretary/Treasurer and shall be retained for a period of two (2) years.

Section 6. The candidate for any office receiving the most votes for said office shall be declared the winner. If an office receives only one (1) qualified candidate for that office, the candidate shall, by the NMRRC Board of Directors, be declared the winner of that particular office. No election expenses shall be incurred for election to an unopposed office.

Section 7. The President shall, when notified of the results by the Election Committee, notify all candidates of the results of the election.

Section 8. No candidate, or relative of a candidate, may serve on the Election Committee.

Section 9. In case of a tie, selection shall be made by a two-thirds majority vote of the NMRRC Board of Directors prior to the Annual Meeting.

#### ARTICLE VII – Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. In order to transact business at any general membership meeting of the NMRRC, a minimum of twenty-five (25) members and five (5) officers in attendance shall constitute a quorum. If no quorum is present, the presiding officer may adjourn the meeting to a day and hour of his/her designation. No decisions may be made at any such meeting lacking a quorum; however, reports, communications and discussion may be heard.

Section 2. Unless otherwise provided in these Articles, Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the transactions of business at all meetings.

#### ARTICLE VII – Order of Business

Section 1. The order of business at all meetings shall be:

1. Call to Order	6. Reading of Communications
2. Roll Call of Officers	7. Unfinished Business
3. Reading of Minutes	8. New Business
4. Report of Officers	9. Discussion
5. Report of Committees	10. Adjournment

#### ARTICLE IX – Amendments

Section 1. Any member may submit a proposed amendment to the Constitution, By-Laws and Show Rules Committee by forwarding same to the Chairperson of said Committee by March 1<sup>st</sup>. The proposed amendment must be signed by twenty-five (25) adult members of the NMRRC in good standing.

Section 2. The Constitution, By-Laws and Show Rules Committee shall review said proposed amendment and forward same with their comments to the NMRRC Board of Directors by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Section 3. Any proposed amendment will be published in the National Mini Rex News and then placed on the next ballot before the membership. For the amendment to be accepted, it must receive simple majority of the votes cast by the membership.