

# JUNIOR RED ANGUS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Adopted June 4, 1998  
Amended June 30, 2000  
Amended June 28, 2002  
Amended June 25, 2004  
Amended June 25, 2011  
Amended June 30, 2012  
Amended June 28, 2016

## Preamble

The Junior Red Angus Association of America, hereinafter referred to as the JRA, is the official coordinator for youth activities of the Red Angus Association of America (RAAA), supervised by the RAAA.

## BYLAWS

### ARTICLE I

#### Name

**Section 1:** The name of the association shall be the “Junior Red Angus Association of America”, denoted as “JRA – Junior Red Angus”.

### ARTICLE II

#### Purpose

**Section 1:** The purpose shall be: Equipping and preparing all Junior Red Angus stakeholders to be leaders, innovators, stewards, and advocates for the Red Angus breed, the beef industry, and agriculture.

**Section 2:** The objectives and purposes shall be:

- a) To improve and develop the capabilities of youth through both individual and group participation.
- b) To provide future leaders for the Red Angus Association of America.
- c) To develop and improve scholarship, leadership and community interest among young cattlemen and cattlegirls.

### ARTICLE III

#### Membership, Voting, Fees

**Section 1: Membership:** An active member shall be an individual younger than 21 years of age who has completed an application for Membership, which has been submitted and processed by the RAAA office.

**Section 2: Voting:** Voting rights shall be vested exclusively with active members in attendance at the time of voting. There will be no proxy voting.

**Section 3: Fees:** Annual dues are paid to the Red Angus Association of America.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Board of Directors**

#### **Section 1: Board of Directors**

- a) The Association shall be managed by a board of six directors; two directors representing each of the three regions of the JRA (see section 4). The terms for all Directors on the board shall be two (2) years. Directors may be elected to a maximum of two, consecutive 2-year terms. The Board shall consist of six directors, of which three -serving the second year of the two-year term- will be elected as President, First Vice President and Second Vice President. The Directors serving their first year of the two-year term will hold committee chairperson positions of the Fund Raising/Financial, Leadership and Public Relations committees. At the conclusion of the second year of their two-year term, the directors holding officer positions will rotate off the board, and directors holding the committee chair positions will be elected to serve officer positions.
- b) The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of three times annually. These meetings will be determined at the start of each fiscal year (July 1) by the JRA coordinator and the Board of Directors. They shall transact any business and decide issues and reports to be given to the annual business meeting.
- c) Any Director who fails to uphold the signed pledge on the board application and/or any Director absent from two (2) board meetings without good cause may be suspended from the Directorship at the discretion of the Board by a simple majority vote of the Directors. Each time a Director fails to uphold the signed pledge on the board application, it is a strike against that Director. With each strike, the JRA officer board must notify the JRA Coordinator, and the highest ranking JRA officer member should notify the accused Director. After three strikes, the Director may be suspended from the Directorship at the discretion of the Board by a simple majority vote of the Directors. Before final voting on contingencies takes place, the Director has the chance to make their plea in an open discussion with the majority of the JRA board. A successor may be appointed by the Board to fill the unexpired term of the Director he/she replaces. (See Section 2, Part d)

#### **Section 2: Director Terms/Voting**

- a) Any JRA member who has reached his or her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday as of July 1 the previous year, but has not reached his or her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday as of July 1 the previous year, is eligible for nomination to the Board of Directors. Any JRA member applying for election to the JRA Board must maintain a continuous JRA or RAAA membership for a minimum of two years prior to the year of officer application. Any JRA member applying for election to the JRA Board must have attended a minimum of one (1) Round-Up prior to the year of officer application.

JRA board members reaching their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday before completing a term in office are allowed to remain active on the Board for the remainder of the term only if an upgrade from the JRA membership to a regular RAAA membership is made within 30 days of the 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. Failure of the JRA Board member to make the membership upgrade to a regular RAAA membership within the 30 day grace period will result in automatic termination from the JRA Board.

- b) Residency: A member will only be allowed to run for representation in the region of which they are a resident. A member's residency will be determined by the address on file with the Red Angus Association of America. A Director must remain a resident of the region they represent throughout his or her term or forfeit his or her position on the board unless serving in an At Large position (see Section 2, part c). An exception is if a student moves to a different region to attend school; however, they must maintain their permanent residency in their home region.
- c) A member of the JRA must submit an official director application and signed pledge form showing his or her intent to run for a position on the Board of Directors. The application and its due date will be

determined annually by the Board and published in the Red Generation. The Junior Activities Committee will determine if an applicant is a qualified candidate to run for election to the Board as defined in Section 2, part a. At Round-Up, candidates will be subject to a series of questions by the board and general membership.

- d) All directors shall be elected at the annual business meeting by the general membership present by a simple majority vote. Board members must serve for one (1) year prior to serving an officer position for the second year of their 2-year term, except in the case of a vacancy in an officer position (see Section 2, part d). New directors will be elected each year to maintain the six member board following the expiring terms of the officer team. If qualified applicants do not fill all six director positions, the JRA board will function until the next election cycle with the number of board members as elected by the membership.
- e) Director At Large: If there is not a qualified member (meaning he or she does not meet eligibility requirements outlined in Section 2, Parts a, b, and c) to represent a region as Director, then an active member can run At Large for the two year term. At the completion of the At Large term, the region will be eligible to fill the position, if they can do so. Applications for an At Large position must follow all rules and deadlines for JRA Board applications.
- f) Vacancy: Any vacancy of a Director's position as a result of resignation or otherwise may be filled by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Directors. Any director appointed to fill a vacancy shall be appointed for the unexpired term of their predecessor to end at the next scheduled Round-Up. If the newly elected officer begins the JRA Board position in the middle of the first year of the two-year term, then he or she will finish that year only. The officer position then goes up for re-election at the next Round-Up to fulfill the second year of the two-year term.-The JRA member who filled the position mid-term is eligible for re-election but must go through the established board application, along with the other candidates. At the end of the two-year term, the office goes up for re-election again so the three Board member rotation continues. An appointed director or a director elected to fulfill a one-year term-cannot serve as President or First Vice President during the appointed term.
- g) Voting: Shall be by secret ballot except when there is only one candidate for the position from a region. If only one candidate is nominated to represent a region, that individual can be elected by acclamation. However, if said candidate is deemed unacceptable by the general membership, a motion can be made from the floor to allow At Large candidates to run for the position or to leave the position vacant. There must be a strong reasoning to deem a candidate unacceptable.
- h) All regional and/or At Large candidates for the JRA Board of Directors must be present at the annual business meeting, held during Round-Up each year, to be eligible for election to the Board.

### **Section 3: Officers**

- a) The officers of the organization comprising the Executive Committee shall be President, First Vice President and Second Vice President. Officer positions of President, First Vice President and Second Vice President shall constitute the Executive Committee and will be elected by simple majority vote of the six board members at the conclusion of the new board of directors' meeting held in conjunction with Round-Up annually. Office elections shall be by secret ballot.
- b) The executive committee of the Board of Directors shall act on any business that needs transaction in the absence of a Board of Directors meeting.
- c) Duties of the Officers:
  - i) President: The President serves as the "lead" representative of the JRA and, as such, will have a variety of responsibilities which include leading and organizing meetings, organizing and

overseeing the preparations for the Year-In-Review presentation held at the RAAA National Convention, communicating regularly with the Junior Programs Coordinator and fellow board members, and fulfilling other officer expectations outlined in the pledge on the officer application.

- ii) First Vice President: The First Vice President is responsible for performing the duties of the President in his or her absence, overseeing committee operations and structure, assisting in meeting planning and operations, and fulfilling other officer expectations outlined in the pledge on the officer application.
- iii) Second Vice President: The Second Vice President is responsible for recording and tracking all minutes, overseeing JRA correspondence and liaison with the RAAA, and fulfilling other officer expectations outlined in the pledge on the officer application.
- iv) Fund Raising/Financial Director: The Fund Raising/Financial Director is responsible for formulating, executing, publicizing fund-raising goals and projects, working with the Junior Foundation, and fulfilling other officer expectations outlined in the pledge on the officer application.
- v) Leadership Director: The Leadership Director is responsible for organizing programs and workshops for Round-Up and National Convention, communicating ideas and plans with the Board of Directors and Junior Programs Coordinator, and fulfilling other officer expectations outlined in the pledge on the officer application.
- vi) Public Relations Director: The Public Relations Director is responsible for gathering, composing and assigning newsletter and ARA Magazine articles and press releases; promoting the JRA and promotional materials; maintaining scrapbook, slides and general photography of JRA events and activities; and fulfilling other officer expectations outlined in the pledge on the officer application.

#### **Section 4: Areas of the Organization:**

The three (3) regions shall align with the regions of the RAAA and be divided as follows:

Region A: Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, Nevada, Hawaii, Alaska, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado

Region B: Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma

Region C: Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Delaware, North Carolina, Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, South Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin

## **ARTICLE V Meetings**

#### **Section 1: Membership Meetings:**

- a) The annual meeting of the membership shall be held at the annual Junior Red Angus Association of America Round-Up for the purpose of electing officers and conducting such other business as may be brought before the meeting.
- b) Notice of meetings will be announced in the Junior Newsletter "Red Generation" and other forms of JRA communications not less than 30 days before the date of the meeting.
- c) Quorum: A quorum for an annual membership meeting shall consist of the active members in good standing and present.

- d) Parliamentary Procedures: Standard parliamentary procedure as defined by Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed at all meetings of the association membership.
- e) If matters are not covered by these Bylaws then the Bylaws and Constitution of the Red Angus Association of America will be consulted.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Place of Business**

**Section 1:** The official place of business for this organization shall be:

Red Angus Association of America  
4201 North Interstate 35  
Denton, Texas 76207-3415

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Amendment**

**Section 1:** The guidelines for this organization may be amended at the annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting. All proposed Bylaws changes must be presented in written form by active members to the Board of Directors 90 days prior to the business meeting.