

# Constitution and Bylaws

## Milton-Freewater Pioneer Posse

Revised 2015

### PART I

#### Constitution and Bylaws

##### Article I

##### Name and Object

###### Section 1

The name of this association shall be the Milton-Freewater Pioneer Posse, a non-profit corporation, with its principal place of business in Milton-Freewater, Oregon.

###### Section 2

The objective of this association shall be to encourage horseback riding, to foster good horsemanship, and also to cooperate with civic enterprises which may benefit from such cooperation and for other purposes of benefit to this association.

##### Article II

##### Membership

###### Section 1

There shall be four classes of membership: active, associate, honorary, and lifetime.

- A. There shall be two types of active memberships, namely, single and family.
  1. A **single** membership is issued to individuals over the age of 18. Children under 18 must join with a family membership, excepting youth under 18 who present a signed parental consent.
  2. A **family** membership shall consist of a parent or legal guardian and their child or children under the age of 18 years, or under the age of 23 and attending school as a full time student.
- B. **Associate** membership is available to anyone who would like to support the Pioneer Posse but is a non-riding individual. An Associate Member is a non-voting member.
- C. **Honorary** membership shall be extended to persons who have rendered outstanding services to the association, such honorary membership to be designated by the Board of Directors and subject to the approval of the board.
- D. **Lifetime** membership shall be extended to Shirley Dickerson and Greta Hassler as designated by the Board of Directors for their outstanding services to the association since its inception. Lifetime members shall have all the duties and voting privileges of regular board members.

###### Section 2

Active and designated honorary members shall be given all rights and privileges for which this association is organized, including the privileges of the floor, right to vote at the annual meeting and the right to hold offices, provided, however, that any family membership will be allowed a maximum of two votes – family members must declare who is voting.

###### Section 3

A member must be 18 years of age prior to December 31 of the previous year to be eligible for election to the Pioneer Posse general board or position of an officer to cast a vote in any committee meeting.

#### **Section 4**

All members and persons using the facilities or attending association sponsored events will abide by Milton-Freewater Pioneer Posse Rules & Regulations found in the Constitution and Bylaws.

#### **Section 5**

Any member automatically terminates his membership by not paying annual dues or by presenting their resignation in writing to the secretary. Membership in the Pioneer Posse may also be terminated by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors for personal conduct deemed to be detrimental to the objectives and rules while engaged in association activities or conduct otherwise damaging to the Pioneer Posse and/or its members.

### **Article III**

#### **Dues**

##### **Section 1**

- A. The fiscal year of this association shall be from January 1 to December 31 of any year.
- B. Dues for membership in this association, exclusive of honorary membership, shall be proposed by the board of directors no later than the October board meeting of any given year and voted on by the board at the December board meeting of the same year.
- C. All dues are payable on or before January 1 or at the time the applicant joins the association, there is no proration of dues depending on date of joining.
- D. No person shall have the privilege of participating in any of the activities of, or hold office in this association until all fees or dues have been paid. Any person(s) caught or reported using the Milton-Freewater Pioneer Posse facility without a current and in good standing membership, shall be considered to be trespassing and may be reported to law enforcement for prosecution.

### **Article IV**

#### **Officers and Directors**

##### **Section 1**

The association shall be governed by a Board of Directors comprised of thirteen members of the association. The board shall consist of four officers and nine additional directors, one of which shall be the immediate past president.

The officers of this association shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be elected by the majority vote of the ballots cast at the Annual Business Meeting. The elected officers and the immediate past president shall constitute the Executive Committee.

The balance of the directors shall consist of eight members of the association. In addition to the elected positions, any designated voting honorary member in attendance shall be considered a board member with same privileges as elected members. Should the President be reelected, then the immediate past president shall remain an active board member until a new President is elected. Should the immediate Past President resign or not be able to fulfill the duties of the position, an additional director will be elected for a one year term. The director positions will be numbered 1 (one) through 8 (eight) and elected each year alternately to two (2) year terms. Odd numbered board positions will be elected in odd number years and even numbered board positions will be elected in even number years.

## **Section 2**

The duties of the President shall be: (a) to preside at all general meetings, board meetings, and all other meetings of this association; (b) appoint such committees as he/she may deem necessary from time to time; (c) perform all duties pertaining to the office of President.

## **Section 3**

The duties of the Vice-President shall be to perform the duties of the President in their absence or in their inability to serve.

## **Section 4**

The duties of the Secretary shall be: (a) keep accurate records of all board and general meetings of the association including attendance; (b) have custody of all records, papers and property of this association; (c) shall deliver all to the successor of this office within ten (10) days following election.

## **Section 5**

The duties of the Treasurer shall be: (a) to keep accurate records and have charge and custody of all funds and pay out same upon or order of the board of directors. The Treasurer shall report annually to the association a recap of the past years income and expenditures activities. The Treasurer shall have custody of all financial records and shall deliver all records, funds and the safe deposit key to the successor of this office within ten (10) days following the election.

## **Section 6**

In case of resignation of an officer or board director the board has the power to appoint a person to fill the office. Any officer or director who is absent two (2) consecutive meetings without valid reason shall automatically be dropped from the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall then appoint a new director to fill this vacancy for the unexpired term of that directorship.

## **Section 7**

It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to: (a) authorize the Treasurer to administer payments for expenses not to exceed \$1500.00 without board approval, with all expenses being reported at the next board meeting; (b) have general supervision and direction of the affairs of the association; (c) audit all bills against the association; (d) fill any and all vacancies which may occur among the officers (e) be actively involved in all events held at the Pioneer Posse Grounds where labor is needed.

## **Article V**

### **Audit/Financial Review**

The President shall appoint a financial review committee consisting of him/her and two (2) additional association members who are not members of the executive committee or currently a board of director. The treasurer shall also make themselves available to the committee to provide any information or documents requested. The committee shall conduct the annual review of Pioneer Posse income, expenses, and banking information. Specific responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. The committee shall obtain a standard written procedure for conducting a review.
- B. To conduct the association's annual review, in accordance with the bylaws, prior to the Annual Meeting.

- C. To report review results to the membership at the Annual Meeting.
- D. To inform the Board of Directors as soon as possible of bookkeeping errors or deficiencies or other problems found during the review.
- E. To compile a written report of the findings during any review to be submitted to the secretary for historical documentation.

## **Article VI**

### **Election of Officers & Directors**

The President shall appoint a nominating committee to solicit at a minimum of four (4) persons from the Pioneer Posse membership for the office of directors and one (1) member for each named office. These names shall be voted upon by the general membership at the annual meeting, plus any nominations from the floor.

## **Article VII**

### **Meetings**

#### **Section 1**

The regular board meeting of this association shall be held the first Tuesday of each month at a site designated by the President. All members are welcome to attend, but only officers and directors will be allowed to vote. Should the prescribed meeting date need to be changed, the President shall contact (telephonic or electronic) the members of the Board of Directors for approval. If the prescribed meeting is changed, then the President should use all means reasonably available to notify the membership.

#### **Section 2**

The annual dinner meeting of this association shall be held within or no later than first quarter of each year for the purpose of election of officers. All paid members may vote.

#### **Section 3**

Special meetings of the association may be called by the Board of Directors or upon petition by 25% of the active membership of the association. Any matter which is to be presented to the members at large may be done through referendum by mail.

## **Article VIII**

### **Quorum**

#### **Section 1**

A quorum for any purpose of this association shall be made up of 2/3 of the board members at a board meeting. (A minimum of 9 votes toward an issue will be necessary for a vote)

#### **Section 2**

A quorum at the annual meetings will be 2/3 of the membership present.

## **Article IX**

### **Amendments**

This constitution and bylaws may be amended at any annual or special meeting of the association by a 2/3 majority vote of those present, provided that all active members have been duly notified seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

## **Article X**

### **Governing & Standing Rules**

#### **Section 1**

The proceedings of the association shall be governed by and conducted according to the latest edition of Roberts Manual of Parliamentary Rules.

#### **Section 2**

The Board of Directors shall make, modify, and approve Standing Rules of the association. These rules shall be used to facilitate and govern all association events, board of director and membership code of conduct and ethics, and animal welfare.

## **Article XI**

### **Location of Association**

The proceeds of the association and place of business of the Pioneer Posse shall be at 84581 Highway 11 Milton-Freewater, Oregon. Mailing address is P.O. Box 478, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862

## **Article XII**

### **Suspension of Membership**

Any member may be suspended and all dues and benefits forfeit if deemed guilty by the Board of Directors of actions contrary to the standing rules, aims and well- being of this association.

## **Article XIII**

### **Incorporation**

This association was incorporated in September 11, 1950 in the State of Oregon as a nonprofit corporation, organized and formed under the pursuant to the laws of the State of Oregon. The name assumed by this association: The Milton-Freewater Pioneer Posse. The place of business is Milton-Freewater, Oregon. The object, business or pursuit of this corporation described as follows:

To encourage and promote horseback riding, sportsmanship and the ownership of good horses; to foster the Pioneer spirit of Oregon, to promote good will and cooperation of the various communities throughout the state; to develop the physical and mental capacities of its members; to purchase, acquire, receive, possess and dispose of such real and personal property as may be necessary incidental and convenient to carry out the objects, business and pursuit of said corporation.

*Members presenting the articles and in whose name the corporation lies are: Bill Harder, WW Groom, Barney Barnes, Arch Demaris, and R.H. Harrington, the President and board of directors for 1950.*

## **Article XIV**

### **Surplus Funds & Dissolution**

The Association is not organized for monetary profit and shall have no power to declare dividends. No part of any income shall accrue to the benefit of any member, or any private persons.

In the event of dissolution of this organization, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the organization, the remaining assets shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation or corporation organized and operated exclusively for the purposes specified in section 501 c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and which has established its tax exempt status under that section.

## **PART II**

### **Summer Series & Mini Series Rules and Regulations**

Revised 2019

#### **Section 1**

##### **General Rules**

- A. All contestants must be Pioneer Posse Members to ride in the arena, compete, and to win awards.
- B. Age is determined as of January 1st of the current year.
- C. Judges and/or Board of Director members may disqualify any rider or spectator for unnecessary roughness, profane language, or disorderly conduct of any kind.
- D. Any person endangering the safety of themselves and/or others will be banned from the premises.
- E. Judges and Timers decisions are final.
- F. Dress code enforced for all contestants. Absolutely no tank tops, halter tops, tube tops, shorts or tennis shoes allowed inside the arena or on the track, while competing on horseback.
- G. All members/families will be required to volunteer at least 1 hour of time to be eligible for series awards. Volunteer tracking sheets will be available in the entry office and cook shack during each event and MUST be signed off by a board member. Volunteer hours can be spent working in cook shack, opening/closing gates, picking up trash, dumping garbage cans, cleaning bathrooms, mowing, helping with special projects, participating in clean up days, posse barrel races, etc. Hour must be completed by date of awards ceremony.
- H. Immediate family members that meet eligibility rules under your family's membership may share a horse in any class and age group. If a family member is not eligible to join on your family membership, then they cannot share a horse with any member of your family. This excludes lead line classes. Lead line contestants may ride anyone's horse.

##### **Pleasure Classes**

Western Classes: Attire shall be hats (baseball, cowboy, or helmets), boots, long or short sleeved shirts. Chaps are optional. Classes are divided into 2 age groups: 17 & Under; 18 & Over.

English Classes: Attire shall be hats (baseball or helmets), boots, long or short sleeved shirts. Classes are divided into 2 age groups: 17 & Under; 18 & Over.

Walk Trot Beginning Pleasure: 12 & Under; 13 & Over: Open to novice riders in their 1st or 2nd year of showing and do not compete on a regular basis. No cross entry into regular pleasure classes. Once a rider wins a buckle in this class they must move up to the regular pleasure classes.

### **Lead Line Events 7 & Under and Challenged Riders**

(Must be led by persons 18 & over on foot, using a lead rope).

Lead Line Stake Race: contestants run down, around 1 pole and back across timer. Adult must be holding the lead rope at all times or there will be a no time given.

Lead line goat tail untying: contestants to run down, dismount and pull ribbon off of goat's tail. An adult may help remove child from horse. Adult must be holding the lead rope at all times or there will be a no time given.

Lead line barrel race: A small course is set up for this event. Adult must be holding the lead rope at all times or there will be a no time given.

### **Dummy Roping**

#### 9 & Under; 10-13 Age Divisions

### **Dummy Roping**

1. There will be three legal head catches in the dummy roping. Each catch will be worth points as follows: Rope two (2) horns = 3 points; Half Head = 2 points; Neck Rope = 1 point.
2. The dummy must be in the likeness of a life size, horned steer head. It can be constructed of plastic or rawhide. It must be attached to the bale by spikes that are pushed into the bale.
3. At the beginning of the contest there will be one practice round. Each contestant is allowed two practice throws from any distance during this round. No score will be kept. The marker cannot be moved during the practice round.
4. The winner of this event is the contestant who successfully qualifies with a legal head catch from the longest distance.
5. Distance is the ultimate determining factor in the dummy roping. Points are kept as a means of determining the placement of contestants that go out at the same distance (tie).
6. The contestants may receive assistance from a helper in building their loops.
7. A contestant who has started to swing, but not delivered their rope may stop their swing and readjust their loop size, spoke, etc. and then continue.
8. Pioneer Posse will provide the official scoring sheets for the event.
9. The contest starts with a line placed on the ground one (1) foot behind the dummy. This line is the roping line. The contestant cannot cross this line with any part of their foot while throwing their rope at the dummy.
10. Each contestant will be allowed two (2) tries from the first distance and every distance thereafter to make a legal head catch. Once the roper misses both tries from the same distance they are out of the roping.
11. A contestant who does not exhibit good sportsmanship during this contest can be disqualified at any time by the Judge.
12. The contestant who is roping is to be given as much room as they need to swing and deliver their rope. If during the throw, a contestant is accidentally fouled by virtue of their rope hitting a spectator or another contestant, the contestant who was fouled will be allowed another try. This will be the call of the designated Judge(s).

13. At the end of each round up through the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) round, the marker will be moved backwards one (1) additional foot from the roping line. From the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) round on, the distance between the roping line and the bale will be increased by two (2) feet. The Judge or their designated assistant(s) are responsible for moving the marker prior to the start of each round.
14. A loop that goes over the dummy's head and encircles the entire bale from front to back will be considered a missed throw.
15. If a contestant crosses the roping line with any part of their foot on their first try, the throw will be considered a miss and the contestant will then have a second try. If a contestant crosses the roping line with any part of their foot on their second chance, the throw will be considered a miss and the contestant is out of the competition. The Judge's decision is final.
16. Contestant must not remove their rope from the dummy until given the OK to do so by the Judge.
17. The winner is the individual that qualifies from the greatest distance. Points determine the placement after that. If there is still a tie after the application of the points, the next deciding factor will be which contestant made the most qualified catches on their first try. Any ties that exist after the application of distance, points and number of first try qualifications shall remain as a tie and be treated the same way as any other tie in any other event.

### **Barrel Racing Events**

**9 & Under:** this is not a lead line group – Parents may assist rider into or out of the arena but may not cross the starting eye for any reason or there will be a no time given. Once a buckle is won in this class the contestant is not eligible to participate in any other Pioneer Posse barrel racing novice/beginner age group.

**10-13 Beginner:** Open to novice riders who do not compete in barrel racing regularly or members of any barrel racing associations or junior rodeo organizations. No cross entry into other age groups. Once a rider wins a buckle in this class they must move up to the regular 10-13 age group and cannot compete in any other Pioneer Posse barrel racing novice/beginner age group.

**10-13:** Open to all riders ages 10-13 that are not eligible for a beginner class.

**14-18 Beginner:** Open to novice riders who do not compete in barrel racing regularly or members of any barrel racing associations or junior rodeo organizations. No cross entry into other age groups. Once a rider wins a buckle in this class they must move up to the regular 13-18 age group and cannot compete in any other barrel racing novice/beginner age group.

**14-18:** Open to all riders ages 13-18 that are not eligible for a beginner class.

**19 & Over Beginner:** Open to novice riders who do not compete in barrel racing regularly or members of any barrel racing associations or rodeo organizations. No cross entry into other age groups. Once a rider wins a buckle in this class they must move to the regular 19 & Over age group and cannot compete in any other barrel racing novice/beginner age group.

**19 & Over:** Open class – no cross entries. If a rider rides more than one horse, the first run to count for points – designation must be made when entering at the entry office.

**Mom & Pop:** Open to riders over the age of 35 who do not compete in barrel racing regularly or current members of any barrel racing clubs or rodeo organizations. No cross entry into other age groups.

**Time Only Barrels:** to be run at the close of other races, unlimited runs can be made for a fee of \$5 per entry.

### **Pole Bending Events**

**9 & Under Poles, 10-13, 14-18, 19 & Over, Mom & Pop:** Mom and Pop class is open to riders over the age of 35 who do not compete in poles regularly.

#### **Goat Tying Events**

9 & Under goat tail untying, 10-13 goat tying, 14-18 goat tying – Horse may not touch the rope holding the goat nor any part of the goat or there will be a no time given.

#### **Figure 8 Stake Race Events**

9 & Under single stake race, 10-13 figure 8 stake race, 14-18 figure 8 stake race, 19 & Over figure 8 stake race, and the Mom & Pop figure 8 stake race open to riders over the age of 35 who do not compete in figure 8 regularly.

## **Section II**

### **Points System & Awards**

- a. 1st place – 6 points
- b. 2nd place – 5 points
- c. 3rd place – 4 points
- d. 4th place – 3 points
- e. 5th place – 2 points
- f. 6th place – 1 point

If there is a tie in the times, split points will be given. (For example: Tie for first place – 5.5 points will be given to each rider.) Points will be accumulated for awards. **Individuals must participate in 4 of 5 series to win awards.** Points will be posted to the posse website and emailed to membership weekly.

Awards will be given to 6 places for Summer Series. Awards will be given to 4 places for Mini Series. Ribbons are given out to each class through 6th place in all age groups. They are available at the entry office.

Buckles will be given to Summer Series event winners. (Ties will be honored)

There will be an all-around award given to the individual with the highest cumulative points in each of the following age groups: **9 & Under, 10-13, 14-18, 19 & Over, and Mom & Pop.**

#### **Summer Series Special Awards:**

- Bob Yenney Memorial Award – to be given to high point Junior & Senior Pleasure Riders – presented by the Yenney Family.
- Shirley Dickerson Memorial High Point Individual Award – A buckle to be given to the individual with the highest total of accumulative points during the five-week series. **Dummy Roping will be excluded from the points calculation as it is not available to all youth age groups.**
- High Point Family Award – to be given to the family with the highest total of accumulative points during the five-week series. Defined as a father and/or mother and any unmarried children living at home. At least one parent must participate in a point earning event.
- Babe Skramstad Memorial Award – A buckle to be given to the participant **under 18 years of age** who gets the second highest total of accumulative points and does not receive a buckle in any event during the five-week summer series.

All awards shall be presented to the winners at a separate awards ceremony that will commence on a date selected by the board after the final mini-series.

### **Part III**

#### **General Information: Grounds Rental, Royalty, volunteers, concessions, website**

##### **The Pioneer Posse Grounds:**

The Pioneer Posse owns 14 ½ acres on highway 11, 2 miles north of Milton-Freewater, Oregon. The frontage property is leased by Bordertown Feed & Supply.

A mobile home on the property is owned and managed by the Pioneer Posse. The occupants of the mobile home shall be the grounds/arena keepers and responsible for reporting any unusual activity to the Posse President and/or police.

The Milton-Freewater Junior Show Inc. owns property just to the south of the Posse grounds, and uses the Pioneer Posse entrance off of Highway 11 for access to their property, as per agreement.

##### **Grounds Rental:**

The Pioneer Posse grounds are available for rent by the day. Concessions on the grounds are run by the Pioneer Posse and available for rented events with board approval to be run and operated exclusively by the Pioneer Posse.

Interested parties may contact the President for available dates and times and to obtain a current lease agreement and listing of rental fees. Fees will set each December by the Board of Directors.

Posse members may ride at the grounds at any time that it is not rented or being watered or worked for an upcoming event.

##### **Pioneer Posse Royalty:**

The Pioneer Posse annually chooses a royal court consisting of three girls who represent the Pioneer Posse and the City of Milton-Freewater at community activities throughout the year.

Candidates must be currently enrolled in high school (9th through 12th grade) and hold a current Pioneer Posse membership. They must be able to ride a horse and have good public speaking skills. They reign from court selection in October to the following year's coronation in January or February. At least one parent or guardian per child must be present at ALL functions. Parents will be responsible for transportation of horses, uniform cleaning, and getting the horse ready for each event.

Tryouts are held in October of each year and girls are judged by out of town judges and/or Posse directors and community members.

Court members spend a busy year attending parades, rodeos, horse shows, and assisting with Posse activities. They also attend community meetings, visit nursing homes, and take part in Milton-Freewater community functions as advised by the Court Chaperones.

Court Chaperones are appointed by the board of directors and current members of the organization and at least one chaperone shall accompany court girls at all court functions.

**Concessions:**

The Pioneer Posse Cook Shack is open during Posse events and is major fundraiser for the organization. It is run by volunteers and/or posse members per the direction of the Board of Directors. The Posse has the right to open the cook shack during non-Posse events held at the arena.

**General Information:**

Website: The Pioneer Posse website is [www.mfpposse.com](http://www.mfpposse.com)

Facebook: The Milton-Freewater Pioneer Posse and Royalty have Facebook pages that are updated by appointed members as needed.

Scholarships: The Pioneer Posse annually presents two \$250 scholarships to current Posse youth members who are graduating high school and have been members for at least one year prior. Applications are made available in the spring and awarded at the end of each school year.

Sponsorships: Annual sponsorships are available ranging from \$100 - \$750. More information is available through the Board of Directors or by visiting the organizations website.