

# CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TROTTING ASSOCIATION

Amended as at November, 2007

## 1. Name

The name of the Federation is "The International Trotting Association".

It is understood that outside the countries of the European Trotting Union the term "Trotting" refers to both trotting and pacing.

## 2. Objects

The objects for which the Association is formed are:

- a) To determine strategies for the promotion and enhancement of trotting globally.
- b) To stimulate public and government interest in trotting.
- c) To ensure that uniform International Rules and Regulations concerning the export and import of trotting horses throughout the world and data exchange of racelines and race earnings are developed, implemented and maintained.
- d) To encourage uniform methods of identification of trotting horses.
- e) To encourage and promote interest in the breeding, training and care, equine research and veterinary science relating to trotting horses.
- f) To determine and encourage the uniform use of politics and rules amongst trotting administrations.
- g) To promote an electronic communication process between the various Federation members in order to establish and update regularly a common database including the performance of the trotter, race results and all other information sourcing to facilitate the business of the Federation and its members.
- h) To share information from an administrative and racing viewpoint to improve the understanding of racing issues internationally.

## 3. Membership

### a) Full Membership:

Membership of the Association shall be open to the Governing Bodies of all countries (or groups of countries) that pursue the above objects and actively conduct trotting races.

- There shall be only one ITA member per country
- The candidate for membership shall provide evidence of its role and responsibility in trotting and breeding and racing and shall undertake to fulfil its obligation as set out in the Constitution
- Should a member not attend two consecutive biennial meetings of the International Trotting Association, the country's membership should be reviewed by the Constitution Committee who may take such action as is necessary.

### b) Associate Membership:

Any Association or Body having interest in accordance with the above named objectives of the Association shall, with the approval of the governing body of the country of which that Association or Body belongs, be entitled to become Associate Members subject to the accreditation by the Governing Body of that country and be represented at all meetings of the Association by not more than two delegates duly appointed in writing by the Association or Body whom they represent. Such delegates may take part in all discussions, but shall not have the right to vote.

### c) Honorary Membership:

May be accorded to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the industry and this Association, upon the recommendation of the Advisory Committee and upon acceptance of the assembly. Such members may take part in all discussions but shall not have the right to vote.

d) **New Membership:**

Applications for new membership of the Association shall be made to the President at least three months before the next scheduled biennial meeting of the Association and should contain the required report on trotting races and breeding in the candidate country. Such application to be considered at the coming General Assembly.

#### **4. Meetings**

- a) Meetings of the Association shall be held at least once every two years, circulating between the countries in the order of: Europe – North America – Europe – Inter Dominion (Australia and New Zealand).
- b) Each member country shall be entitled to be represented at all meetings of the Association by two delegates duly appointed in writing by the respective member country. The delegate or delegates so appointed need not be nationals or residents in the country they are representing, and substitute delegates may from time to time be appointed by the respective member countries. Delegates so appointed shall be the representative entitled to participate in the conference meeting and vote on any motion thereat.
- c) Every member country shall, in addition to its official delegates, be entitled to have not more than four official observers duly appointed by the member countries. These observers shall not have the right to vote at meetings of the Conference. The official observers shall not speak at International Trotting Association meetings unless given permission to do so. Notwithstanding the above, interested persons who shall be classified as visitors may attend meetings of the International Trotting Association, providing they obtain the accreditation of the member country of which they are resident.
- d) Voting at Association meetings shall be done by the delegates present and in the event of an equality of votes the President of the conference shall have a casting as well as a deliberate vote.
- e) At all meetings of the Association, the proceedings shall be communicated to all participants in the original languages of the Association, which will be: English, French and the language(s) of the host country at its discretion.
- f) All papers delivered at each meeting of the Association shall be presented in all official languages.

#### **5. Officers**

- a) There shall be a President and Secretary and other such officers as the General Assembly may appoint.
- b) The president shall be appointed from the official delegation of the host country of the current conference and shall hold office until the first day of the next succeeding biennial conference.
- c) The Secretary shall be appointed from the official delegation of the host country of the current conference by which time the official minutes will have been prepared and distributed. In any event not later than 120 days following the conclusion of the conference a new Secretary shall be appointed from the official delegation of the next host country.
- d) In the event of the death or loss of qualification of any officer a replacement shall be made by the delegation from the country of the incumbent officer.

#### **6. Minutes**

On the appointment of each President and Secretary all minutes taken and other records of the Association shall be forwarded immediately to the incoming Secretary and a copy of such minutes and documents retained for recorded purposes.

## **7. Standing Committees**

- a) There shall be an Advisory Committee comprising the two immediate Past Presidents and a delegate from the incoming host country whose functions shall be to advise and assist the President in ensuring continuity between conferences and assistance to the incoming host country in the planning of the next conference timetable.
- b) There shall be the following Standing Committees, each of which shall elect its own Chairman at the first meeting of the Committee:

Group A:

- 1. Constitution & Regulation Committee
- 2. Equine Health Committee
- 3. Breeding Committee

Group B:

- 4. Business Development & Wagering Committee
- 5. Integrity Committee
- 6. Racing & World Driving Championship Committee
- 7. Marketing and Media Awards Committee

It is suggested that at least two meetings of each Committee be held over the course of the Conference with individuals entitled to be a member on one Committee each from the Group A and Group B schedule. Meetings of these Standing Committees are to be scheduled as part of the conference timetable.

- c) Only official delegates shall be eligible to be members of the Constitution & Regulation Committee. Members of the other Standing Committees and special Committees shall comprise official delegates, but in addition official observers may be appointed and any visitor may be co-opted.
- d) No person shall be appointed as a member of more than two Standing Committees but shall retain the right to attend the meetings of any other Standing Committee as an Observer.
- e) The President, with the approval of the Conference, may appoint ad hoc committees to study and consider subject which may come up from time to time. The ad hoc committees once they have completed their studies and made their reports will be automatically disbanded.
- f) In the event of death or loss of qualification of any committee member, a new appointment may be made by the member country concerned.

## **8. Member Country Fees**

- a) Each member country shall pay an annual fee to the Association. This annual fee shall be collected by the designated host country for the next coming biennial meeting of the Association. The annual fee shall be set by the General Assembly of the Association (US \$200). The said fee due and payable on or before July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Should the fee not be paid when due, then membership may at the discretion of the Constitution Committee be considered to have lapsed.
- b) Each member country shall pay a registration fee for each appointed delegate, observer or visitor attending any meeting of the Association. Such fee shall be set by, and paid to the host country (For 2009 set at maximum of US\$1,250 for Conference attendees and US\$1,250 for accompanying persons).
- c) All conference fees shall be notified to all member countries at least six months prior to the opening of the Conference.
- d) The host country for any conference may invite a non-member country to attend the conference as an observer nation.

## **9. Changes to the Constitution**

Changes to the Constitution of the International Trotting Association may be effected by notice of Motion in writing to the Secretary General of the Association not later than two months prior to the next meeting of the Association and the Secretary General shall immediately on receipt notify all member countries. Such alterations to the Constitution shall require a simple majority of those delegates present and voting.