

## RACINE/KENOSHA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

- I. PURPOSE: The purpose of the Association is to:
  - a. Act as a forum for the discussion of beekeeping practices in the Southeastern Wisconsin and adjoining area.
  - b. Promote beekeeping in local communities.
  - c. Disseminate information relating to the practice and benefits of beekeeping in the Southeastern Wisconsin and adjoining area.
  
- II. MEMBERSHIP:
  - a. Membership shall be extended to all parties with an interest in beekeeping within and adjacent to the counties of Racine and Kenosha Wisconsin.
  - b. Membership may be maintained on either an individual or family basis.
  - c. The membership shall establish membership dues for the upcoming calendar year at the last scheduled meeting of the previous calendar year.
  - d. New members joining the Association after one half of the annual scheduled meetings have been held will have their dues applied to the following year's membership.
  - e. Each member will have one vote.
  
- III. OFFICERS:
  - a. During the first meeting of the new calendar year a slate of candidates will be nominated from the membership for the following offices:
    1. President
    2. President Elect (functions as Vice President)
    3. Secretary
    4. Treasurer
  - b. Officers will be elected on a majority vote by the membership in attendance at the first meeting of the new calendar year.
  - c. Officers may not exceed more than three consecutive terms in the same office.
  - d. If a vacancy should occur during the course of the year, a special election will be held during the next scheduled meeting after the vacancy occurred.
  - e. The **President** shall preside at all meetings of the Association, appoint standing committees or individuals as needed for various

tasks of the Association, represent the Association, and perform other duties as needed. The President shall have no vote except in the case of a tie.

- f. The **President Elect** shall set up a schedule of speakers or programs for meetings, preside at meetings when the President is absent, and perform other duties as required.
- g. The **Secretary** shall keep records of the meetings, conduct needed correspondence, arrange for meeting space, and keep records of the Association. The secretary will also communicate meeting dates and other information deemed of interest to the membership as directed by the President. In the absence of the President and Vice President, the Secretary shall call the meeting to order and preside over the selection of a temporary President to conduct the meeting.
- h. The **Treasurer** shall keep an itemized account of the Association finances, pay all bills as authorized by the membership or officers, and present a statement at each meeting.

#### IV. MEETINGS

- a. Meetings will be held as determined by the membership. Typically, a calendar year will consist of eight membership meetings, a summertime social event (picnic) and a holiday social event (Christmas dinner).
- b. The time, date and location of the meetings will be determined by the membership for the upcoming new calendar year during the last scheduled meeting of the previous calendar year.

#### V. PROMOTION ACTIVITIES

- a. The membership shall promote beekeeping activities in the Southeastern Wisconsin and adjoining area.
- b. At the discretion of the membership, the Association may operate an independent bee yard for the benefit of the members. The bee yard may be used as an educational resource. A bee yard manager shall be appointed by the President. The manager shall work with the President Elect to schedule relevant educational events at the bee yard throughout the year. Expenses associated with the bee yard shall be the responsibility of the Association. Any products from the bee yard shall be sold or used for the benefit of the Association membership. The membership shall determine how the products will be handled by simple majority vote of those in attendance at the meeting during which the topic is discussed.
- c. Members are encouraged to communicate and present information to the community and interested parties that promotes interest and

support for beekeeping and the use of the products derived from beekeeping activities.

VI. ADMENDMENTS

- a. Amendments to the by laws will require written introduction of the proposed amendment during a regularly scheduled meeting.
- b. The proposed amendment shall be reviewed and discussed during the meeting that it is introduced.
- c. A vote on the amendment shall be scheduled for the next regularly scheduled meeting after the amendment has been introduced. The amendment shall require a 2/3 majority vote of the members present at the meeting to become incorporated into the by laws.

VII DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

- a. Upon dissolution of the Association, as voted by 75% of the remaining members, all assets shall be transferred to the federal government, the State of Wisconsin, or equitably to the Racine and Kenosha UW Extension organizations for public purposes.
- b. The membership of the Association shall not benefit from the dissolution of the Association.