



# WEST MICHIGAN LIVESTOCK COUNCIL BY-LAWS

(Revision 1)

## ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this Association shall be the West Michigan Livestock Council.

## ARTICLE II: OBJECT

The object of this Association shall be to organize and promote Livestock projects for the youth eligible to exhibit at the Western Michigan Fair. This shall include the promotion of both breeding and market animal projects. The animal projects and the market animal sale shall serve as educational activities for all youth ages 5-19, eligible to participate at the Western Michigan Fair, including but not limited to, open youth, 4-H members, and FFA members.

## ARTICLE III: MEMBERS

- Section 1:** There shall be two classes of members in this Association. These shall include **Adult Members** and **Youth Members**.
- Section 2:** The **Adult Members** shall include parents, step-parents, or legal guardians of youth members as defined in Article III, Section 3, plus club leaders participating at the Western Michigan Fair.
- Section 3:** The **Youth Members** shall include all youth ages 5 through 19 who are enrolled, as stated in the General Rules of the Association, in a livestock project at the Western Michigan Fair.
- Section 4:** The rights and privileges of the two classes of members shall be identical except: (1) That only **Youth Members** who are at least 13 years old and have attended at least four business meetings of the association, shall be eligible for election to the offices of President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary. (2) That only **Adults Members** shall be eligible for election to the offices of President Advisor, Vice President Advisor, Recording Secretary Advisor, Corresponding Secretary Advisor and Treasurer.
- Section 5:** The West Michigan Livestock Council recognizes the exhibitor as the owner of the animal. The owner is the person to receive payment of proceeds, less commissions and pictures, from the animal.

## ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

- Section 1:** Officers of this Association shall be President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, President Advisor, Vice-President Advisor, Recording Secretary Advisor, and Corresponding Secretary Advisor. These officers shall perform the

duties prescribed by these By-Laws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Association.

- Section 2:** The officers shall be elected by ballot to serve for one (1) year or until their successors are elected and their terms of office shall begin at the close of the meeting at which they are elected. The elections shall be held at the first regular meeting in September of each year.
- Section 3:** No member shall hold more than one (1) office at a time and no member shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office, except for the Treasurer position.
- Section 4:** The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, President Advisor, Vice-President Advisor, Recording Secretary Advisor, and Corresponding Secretary Advisor..
- Section 5:** The Adult Advisors shall sit with Youth Officers during the meeting to advise and assist the Youth Officers in carrying out their duties.
- Section 6:** The two required signatures on the West Michigan Livestock Council checking and savings accounts will be the Treasurer and President.
- Section 7:** OFFICERS/ADVISORS OF THIS COUNCIL SHALL ATTEND A MINIMUM OF 75% OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS OR THE YOUTH'S/ADVISOR POSITION ON THE BOARD WILL BE TERMINATED.

#### **ARTICLE V: MEETINGS AND VOTING ELIGIBILITY**

- Section 1:** Six (6) members of the Association shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 2:** Regular Meetings of the membership shall be held monthly and open to all members and persons in support of the object of the Association.
- Section 3:** All persons attending meetings of the Association shall be eligible to make motions and to vote on all motions presented.
- Section 4:** Voting in the election of officers, on amendments to the By-Laws or General Rules of the Association, and where a secret ballot has been requested, shall be limited to Adult Members and Youth Members, as defined in Article III, Sections 2 & 3.
- Section 5:** A secret ballot may be requested by an Adult Member or Youth Member as defined in Article III, Sections 2 & 3, on any motion presented to the Association.
- Section 6:** The President or any of the Adult Advisors may call an Executive Session meeting of the Executive Board, whenever deemed necessary, provided 24 hours prior notice is given.
- Section 7:** A Special meeting of the membership may be called by the members of the Executive Board, or by written petition of twenty-five (25) members, provided ten (10) days prior written notice is given to the membership. Electronic notification via the council's website, social media page, and email notification, shall be considered sufficient written notice to the membership.

#### **ARTICLE VI: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

- Section 1:** The rules contained in the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and if they are not inconsistent with these by-laws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

## **ARTICLE VII: DISSOLUTION**

**Section 1:** The West Michigan Livestock Council is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Upon the dissolution of the West Michigan Livestock Council, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction in the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

**Section 2:** The West Michigan Livestock Council shall remain non-profit forever.

## **ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS OF BY-LAWS & GENERAL RULES**

**Section 1:** These By-Laws can be amended at any meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that the motion to amend has been submitted and supported at the previous meeting.

**Section 2:** A General Rule can be amended at any meeting of the association by a majority of members present, provided that the motion to amend has been submitted and supported at the previous meeting.

**Section 3:** Amendments to these By-Laws, or General Rule changes are to be made at one meeting, put into the minutes for everyone to read, and then voted on at the next meeting.