

BY-LAWS OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA TRAIL RIDERS, INC.

ARTICLE I - NAME AND LOCATION

The name of this organization will be SOUTH FLORIDA TRAIL RIDERS, INC. The mailing address is P.O. Box 924946, Princeton, Florida 33092.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES

The purpose of the South Florida Trail Riders, Inc.. will be to encourage and develop equestrian trails and riding facilities; to promote an active interest in equestrian activities; to inspire respect for the law; to promote legislation in our favor and friendship for all riders and associations; to promote the wise use and management of our natural resources in the best interest of the present and future generations; to help in the development of equestrian recreational facilities and educational programs that aid and improve the quality of life for the people of Florida.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Classes of Membership.

- A. Single - one person 18 years of age or older.
- B. Family - all persons residing at the same residence.
- C. Honorary - (As designated by the Board of Directors)
- D. Life - For Founder, **Marsha Schloesser**. Charter members; **Dottie & Ben Kroner, Beverly & Tom Spuckler, Mollie Lettieri**, in good standing as of the 1991/92 membership year and Presidents who have honorably served their elected terms.
- E Affiliate - Non-voting. Must be a member in good standing of another recognized equestrian organization.

SECTION 2. Qualifications of Membership.

Membership will consist of people of good character and community standing, as defined by club protocol and interpreted by the Board of Directors

SECTION 3. Property Rights.

No member will have any right, title or interest in any of the property or assets, including the name of the South Florida Trail Riders, any earnings or investment income of the South Florida Trail Riders, nor will any of such property or assets be distributed to any member on the dissolution thereof. Furthermore, no part of the net earnings of the South Florida Trail Riders will inure to the benefit of any private member or individual.

SECTION 4. Liability of Members.

No member of the South Florida Trail Riders will be personally liable for any of its debts or obligations.

SECTION 5. Roster.

A roster of the members will be kept and maintained under the guidance of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

SECTION 1. General Membership Meetings.

Meetings will be conducted on a monthly basis which time and location will be established by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. Board Meetings.

Board meetings will be conducted as needed to address club business. Time and location will be established by the presiding officer.

SECTION 3. Trail Rides.

All club sponsored rides will have a safety briefing prior to each ride.

ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. Composition of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors will be comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Five Directors and 2 Alternate Board members. The Board will establish the policy for approving club funds and the authority to create such funds as to carry out club business - i.e; parade fund, trails fund and membership fund.

SECTION 2. Quorum.

- A. A two-thirds attendance constitutes a quorum.
- B. When voting on issues, majority carries the vote.
- C. When voting on issues, alternate board member(s) may vote in the absence of a regular Board Member.

SECTION 3. Action Without Meeting.

Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors may be taken without such meetings by telephone or personal consent, providing a plurality of votes is obtained and all members of the Board of Directors have been notified of such action without meeting.

SECTION 4. Eligibility.

Only an active member of the club possessing membership in good standing for a period of no less than 1 year and a minimum age of 18 years will be eligible to hold office.

SECTION 5. Vacancies.

Vacancies on the Board of Directors will be filled by a vote of the majority of the remaining Board members. A successor officer so elected will serve for the unexpired term of the predecessor officer.

SECTION 6. Resignation.

Any officer may resign at any time by submitting a written resignation to the Board of Directors.

SECTION 7. Meetings.

A meeting of the Board of Directors will be held whenever called by the President, Vice President or a majority of the Board of Directors. Notice of the time and place of regular or special meetings will be given to each Board member with sufficient notification.

SECTION 8. Appointment of Nominating Committee.

At least sixty days prior to the annual Business Meeting for election of officers, the President will name a nominating committee that meets with the approval of the Board of Directors, who will solicit candidates for vacancies occurring on the Board of Directors.

SECTION 9. Nominations by Members.

Any member twelve years of age or older may submit nominations by mail, telephone, verbally or can nominate a candidate at the prescribed nominating business meeting.

SECTION 10. Notification of Members.

All members will be notified in the May newsletter of the names of the candidates approved by the nominating committee to appear on the ballot for the election of officers.

SECTION 11. Voting.

- A. Absentee Ballots must be received prior to the election business meeting.
- B. All members in good standing, 12 years of age or older may vote.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

SECTION 1. OFFICERS

The officers of the Board of Directors will be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and such other officers as may be appointed by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. Election and Term of Office.

All officers will be elected by the membership for a term of one year beginning June 1st through May 31st of the following year. Elections will be conducted during the May General Meeting with elected officers taking office on June 1st.

SECTION 3. Vacancies.

In the case of death, incapacity or resignation of any officer during a term of office, the vacancy will be filled by action of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4. President.

Will preside at all general meetings and Board of Director meetings; will perform such duties as ordinarily pertain to that office; will countersign all checks with the treasurer and will be answerable to the Board of Directors for his or her actions.

SECTION 5. Vice President.

Will preside in the absence of the President and perform the duties of the president for the unexpired term in the event of a vacancy in the office of President.

SECTION 6. Secretary.

Appointed by the President subject to the approval of a majority of the Board of Directors. Will record the proceedings of all meetings; conduct the general correspondence; submit articles as requested for publication and submit to the by-laws committee chairperson all motions pertaining to club business.

SECTION 7. Treasurer.

Will preside in the absence of the President and Vice President and collect all dues and fees of South Florida Trail Riders, Inc.; pay all bills promptly; keep an accurate record of receipts and disbursements; make a financial report at each meeting; assist the Board of Directors in preparing a budget and obtain the signature of the president on all checks drawn on the treasury.

SECTION 8. Removal.

Any Board member may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors whenever in its judgement the interests of the Club would there by be best served.

ARTICLE VII

APPLICATION OF ROBERT’S RULES OF ORDER, REVISED

Except as otherwise provided for in these By-laws and the Articles of Incorporation in respect to meetings, elections, and procedural matters, the Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, are hereby adopted and govern in respect to such meetings, elections and procedural matters. To be applied at the discretion of the presiding chairperson.

ARTICLE VIII-COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. Committees.

There will be such standing Committees as are required to carry on the work of the Club, including, but not limited to:

- 1. Camping
- 2. Special Events
- 3. Membership
- 4. Newsletter
- 5. Parades
- 6. Sunshine
- 7. Telephone
- 8. Programs
- 9. T-Shirts
- 10. Historical
- 11. Public Relations
- 12. Drill Team
- 13. Trailblazer
- 14. Government Liaison

The Board of Directors is empowered to create, combine or dissolve committees or to change their composition or responsibilities as the need may arise. All committee chairpersons will report to the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. Eligibility.

Only active members in good standing will be eligible to be appointed as committee chairpersons.

SECTION 3. Vacancies.

Appointments to fill vacancies occurring in committees will be in by the same procedure as the original appointments.

SECTION 4. Reports.

The committee chairpersons will report to the Board of Directors. Any recommendations for expenditures or actions are subject to approval by the Board.

SECTION 5. Club Affiliations.

All affiliation representatives are subject to Article VIII, Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4 above.

ARTICLE IX - FINANCES

SECTION 1. The Fiscal Year.

The Fiscal Year of the South Florida Trail Riders will be from September 1st through August 31st.

SECTION 2. Dues.

Dues are set by the Board of Directors and will be paid annually.

Current dues Are:

Family Membership	\$35.00
Single Membership	\$30.00
Affiliate Membership	\$20.00
(Must be full member of SFTR of Broward)	
Guest Pass	\$5.00

ARTICLE X - NEWSLETTER

There will be an official newsletter of the South Florida Trail Riders to be published on a regular basis. The purpose of the newsletter will be to serve as a medium of intercommunication and exchange of ideas and activities.

ARTICLE XI - DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution or final liquidation of the club, any assets remaining after payment of all obligations will be donated to a Florida not-for-profit organization as designated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. Amendment Procedure

Proposed changes must be submitted to the Board of Directors writing.

SECTION 2. Power of the Board of Directors to amend By-laws.

The Board of Directors may propose such by-laws for the conduct its business and the carrying out of its purposes as it deems necessary. Such proposals must be submitted in writing to the General membership.

SECTION 3. Power of the General Membership to amend By-laws.

The by-laws may be made, altered or rescinded by 2/3 vote of the members present at any General Membership meeting. Exception being the changing of club ID., (i.e.: Name, logo, motto, etc..) which would require a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote.

ARTICLE XIII - CIRCULATION OF BY-LAWS

Prior to the presentation at the General Membership meeting, notification will be published in the newsletter. Within thirty days of ratification of the by-laws, they will be submitted to the Secretary of State of the State of Florida, Corporate Division.

WHO ARE THE SOUTH FLORIDA TRAIL RIDERS?

We are a non-profit, all volunteer horse riding organization made up of family, single and youth members.

Our members come from a wide variety of horse interests: breeding, showing, dressage, endurance, farriers, medical, pleasure, training and just "plain ol" horse lovers.

Our members have an equally broad range of vocational interests from horse trainers to medical doctors, truck drivers, students, stock brokers, attorneys, police, shopkeepers, teachers, etc. All have one primary interest, to ride and care for horses.

We organized to:

- ◆ Preserve open "greenspace" conducive to safe, responsible horse activities, primarily trail riding.
- ◆ Develop horse trails and facilities
- ◆ Promote horse activities
- ◆ Promote legislation in favor of horsemen and horse related activities

We believe in the American adage that "Together we stand, divided we fall."

The interests of our members are widely varied. Consequently our activities are also varied.

TYPICAL ACTIVITIES - SOMETHING FOR EVERY INTEREST

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- ◆ Actively monitor legislation on horse related issues
- ◆ Actively pursue development of riding trails and facilities (such as; Larry and Penny Thompson Park; Black Creek Bridle Paths)
- ◆ Provide horses and helpers for the "Horses & Handicapped" Program
- ◆ Instrumental in founding A.I.I.O.O.F. (Affiliated Horsemen's Organizations of Florida) Renamed Sunshine State Horse Council
- ◆ Local parade participation
- ◆ Support abused/neglected horses programs

GUEST SPEAKERS & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

- ◆ Veterinarians with latest information about our horse's medical problem
- ◆ All types of horse trainers
- ◆ Farriers
- ◆ Driving (buggies, carts wagons, etc.)

FUN RIDES

- ◆ Everglades National Park
- ◆ Virginia Key Beach
- ◆ State & Local parks — Overnight Camping
- ◆ Jingle Bell Jaunt (Toys for kids)

- ◆ Local "Theme" Rides (established by the barn or individual hosting the ride);
 - ◆ Poker rides
 - ◆ Ice cream rides
 - ◆ Progressive dinner rides
 - ◆ Watermelon rides

FESTIVITIES

- ◆ Halloween Party
- ◆ Christmas party
- ◆ Barbecues/Fish fries
- ◆ Banquet
- ◆ Membership drives

TRAIL MANNERS

Good manners are the grease that helps people get along with each other avoiding friction.

Be aware of the effect your actions have on others, their horses and their property.

Do not upset your co-riders' horses.

Ride at a quiet, controlled pace.

NEVER PASS OTHERS AT A GALLOP OR RUN

Keep at a safe distance.... (don't crowd).

STAY WITH A DISMOUNTED RIDER.

Respect the property of others. (ie; lawns, farmer's fields, crops, groves, livestock, etc.)

Leave gates as you found them:

Open gates should remain open.

Closed gates should remain closed.

DO NOT pass the Trail Boss or drop behind the Drag or Security Rider.

REMEMBER! If you mind your manners others won't mind when you and your horse return.

Businesses offering discounts on merchandise or services to South Florida Trail Rider members are listed in each current issue of our newsletter. Always ask proprietor for availability and amount of discount to members

A HORSE'S PRAYER

Feed me, water me and care for me. And when the day's work is done, provide me with shelter, a clean, dry bed and a stall large enough for me to lie down in comfort.

Talk to me. Your voice often means as much to me as the reins. Pet me sometime that I may serve you more gladly and learn to love you. Shoe me properly that I may serve you in comfort. Never strike, beat or kick me when I don't understand you.

And finally, oh master, when my youthful strength is gone, do not turn me out to starve or freeze or sell me to some cruel owner to be slowly tortured or stoned to death, but do thou, my master, take my life in the kindest way and your guide will reward you here and hereafter I ask.

You will not consider me irreverent if task this in the name of He who was born in a stable. Amen.

A NEGATIVE COGGINS CERTIFICATE IS REQUIRED BY MOST HORSE ORGANIZATIONS AND THE STATE OF FLORIDA, AGRICULTURE DEPT. WHENEVER A HORSE IS TRANSPORTED

IS YOUR HORSE TIRED OF RIDING IN CIRCLES?

Are You?

Does going around and around in a ring have you bored silly?

Why not get out and away from that ring?
Show your horse what all of this training allows him to do...

Ride the wide open spaces!
Join the SOUTH FLORIDA TRAIL RIDERS!

Take advantage of south Florida's year-round sunshine with local rides, beach rides, camping trips and more, much more.

Help us to keep the riding areas we have and to open new riding trails in South Florida.

Be assured that without your help horseback riding in Dade & Broward County will soon become totally restricted to private lands. Mostly "The Ring".

It's also not inconceivable that with fuel prices continuing to rise the horse could again become the primary transport of the future.



SOUTH FLORIDA
TRAIL RIDERS

DON'T FENCE US OUT!

South Florida Trail Riders, Inc.

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www.sftrdade.org

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