

Rules, Constitution and By-Laws 2009

2009 Board Members

President: Perry Dotson

Vice President: Brian Clark

Secretary : Kymberleigh Strain

Treasurer: Dorrie McCosh

Constitution of the Arkansas Chuckwagon Racing Association

Article I. Purpose and Name

Section A. The name of this association shall be ARKANSAS CHUCKWAGON RACING ASSOCIATION.

Section B. The purpose of this association shall be to promote chuckwagon racing. The prime purpose shall be to promote the conducting of chuckwagon races for the outstanding teams, and further to promote the running type teams with achievement over style, and to promote SAFETY of people and animals.

Section C. The principal activities shall be to conduct through the association of the members of the Association, a championship stakes for all teams and derbies and other activities that brings about the promotion of chuckwagon racing.

Article II. Structure

The Association shall be composed of members with equal representation. Officers shall include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one Board Member for each approved class. Each Board Member shall have one vote³ except the President whom will only vote in case of a tie.

(2) This Association may dissolve itself at any time by a two-thirds vote of the members in good standing, at which time the treasury of the Association shall be distributed to Organizations that qualify as exempt Organizations.

Section A. Membership

- (1) To be eligible for membership a signed application/waiver must be delivered to the Association Treasurer or a Representative. The form must be completely filled out by the applicant, or guardian if the applicant is a minor, and turned in prior to participation in ACwRA events. Memberships will be available throughout the racing season.
- (2) Dues will be determined annually by the Board of Directors. Dues must accompany the application/waiver.

- (3) Termination of membership can be made in one of four ways
- a. LAPSING. Any member failing to pay annual dues shall be considered terminated and ineligible for association voting, privileges and activities.
 - b. RESIGNATION. Members may make their resignation at any time by sending a written notice of their intentions to the Association Secretary after which time they shall be ineligible for voting, privileges and activities.
 - c. REJECTION. A person(s) membership may be rejected or renounced for violations of the Association Laws and Rules. Such motion for rejection shall first be brought to the Board by not less than two (2) members who shall prepare a written statement concerning violations and suggested rejection. THE Board shall review the violation. If by majority vote the Board feels rejection is warranted the accused member(s) shall be notified in writing within (10) days. The member(s) may make a counter statement in his/her defense at the next Board meeting. After reviewing all the facts rejection will result by a majority vote of Board Members present with the accused member(s) having NO vote.
 - d. REQUIREMENTS. A board member must not miss two (2) consecutive scheduled meetings. If this happens, the member may be reviewed by the Board of Directors of the Association. All Association sanctioned races shall be conducted according to the Association Rules as stated in the By-Laws.

SECTION B. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

- (1) Members in good standing of the Association may attend any Association General Meeting.

SECTION C. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

- (1) PRESIDENT. The President shall preside over all meetings of the Association and shall be the recognized head of the Association.
- (2) VICE PRESIDENT. The Vice President shall preside over the Association meeting in the absences of the President. He/She shall assist the President in Association matters.
- (3) SECRETARY. The Secretary Shall:
- a. Keep the minutes of all Association meetings
 - b. Be in charge of all correspondence by the Association.
 - c. Keep records of all member and/or team information and Association activities.
 - d. Be responsible for carrying out any other functions that the President and/or the Board of Directors deem necessary.
- (4) TREASURER. The Treasurer shall:
- a. Be responsible for collecting member club dues.
 - b. Be responsible for paying and keeping records of all Association expenses.
- (5) BOARD MEMBERS. The Board Members shall represent the class elected to and help promote races and safety.
- (6) SCREENING COMMITTEE(S). Job description guidelines to be determined by Officers and Board of Directors.

(7) BOARD OF DIRECTOR REASON FOR DISMISSAL

- a. Does not attend monthly meeting. Must contact President or other officer to inform them the reason for missing the meeting before the meeting starts.
- b. Does not follow duty sheet that will have duties listed for each Board of Director at each race. The list will be at the 10:00am measuring which each Board of Director must attend.
- c. All Board of Directors must attend the Racers Meeting at 11:30am at each race.

ARTICLE III. DISCLAIMER CLAUSE

This Constitution, as written, supersedes any and all previous Constitutions and amendments of the ARKANSAS CHUCKWAGON RACING ASSOCIATION. This Constitution becomes effective January 1, 1994.

BY-LAWS of the Arkansas Chuckwagon Racing Association

ARTICLE I. ASSOCIATION SANCTIONED RACES

SECTION A. ASSOCIATION RACES

- (1) All Association Races shall be run according to the Laws and Rules of the Arkansas Chuckwagon Racing Association. All participants must be members of the Association.
- (2) Judges shall be selected by any method deemed appropriate by the Board.
 - a. All track owners will use ACwRA elected Head Judge, Head Timekeeper, flaggers, timekeepers, and starter. Track Owners will also use ACwRA elected field judge(s), if needed.
 - b. Track Owners and the ACwRA will split the cost of officials 50/50 that are used at a sanctioned ACwRA race. The cost will be for the Head Judge, (2) field judges, the Head Starter and blanks for the starter pistol.

ARTICLE II. VOTING

SECTION A. A simple majority of the Board is required to pass or defeat any measure unless otherwise specified in the Constitution or By-Laws. In the event of any tie vote, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

SECTION B. in the event any situation arises that the President and/or the Executive Committee feels that an immediate vote by the Board is needed, the President shall have one of the following options.

- (1) A vote may be taken by mail. The Secretary will send out certified letters stating the issue. The Board will have ten (10) days upon receipt to return this vote.
- (2) A vote may be taken by phone. The Association Secretary will send a letter stating the issue and the time the President will call for the Board members vote. In the event either of the above options is deemed necessary, the President shall be designated as a Board Member. In case the President is not available, the Vice President shall be designated as the Board Member.

SECTION C. No proxy vote will be allowed at Board meeting or the Annual meeting.

ARTICLE III. DEFINITION OF A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

SECTION A. A Club Member shall be deemed in Good Standing if:

- (1) He/She meets the requirement as stated in Article II, Section A.

ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

SECTION A. A regular annual meeting shall be held each year.

SECTION B. Special meetings may be held upon the call of the President by giving each member not less than ten (10) days notice of the date, place and purpose of such special meetings.

SECTION C. Secret Ballot shall be used for:

- (1) Voting for the expulsion of member
- (2) Voting on a replacement for a Board position if one needs to be filled before the two year term is fulfilled.
- (3) Any other issue the Board Members deems necessary

ARTICLE V. ORDER OF BUSINESS

SECTION A. At the meetings of the Association, the order of business, so far as the character and nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows:

- (1) Roll Call
- (2) Minutes of the last Meeting
- (3) President's Report
- (4) Secretary/Treasurer's Report
- (5) Committees' report
- (6) Election of Officers and Board (At annual meeting)
- (7) Unfinished Business
- (8) New Business
- (9) Adjournment

ARTICLE VI.

SECTION A. See *Amendment I*

SECTION B. Officers, except the President, may serve as a Delegate at association meetings.

SECTION C. The Board of Directors will go thru due process in the best interest of the Association to set and/or amend the rule book.

ARTICLE VII.

These By-Laws as written, supersede any and all previous By-Laws and Amendments of the Arkansas Chuckwagon Racing Association. These By-Laws become effective January 21, 2001.

AMENDMENTS OF THE ARKANSAS CHUCKWAGON RACING ASSOCIATION

AMENDMENT I.

ELECTION OF OFFICIALS

- I. Election of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will be by the vote of the membership at the General Membership meeting to serve a two-year term.
- II. Board Members will be elected from the general membership to serve a two-year term. If additional Classes are approved as sanctioned events of the ACwRA, they will elect a Board Member for that position. There are eight Board Membe3rs. ACwRA members nominated by the general membership will fill positions open for election.
- III. Any position opened before the two year term is completed shall be filled by the remaining elected representatives to fulfill the remainder of that positions term.

ACwRA 2004 Rules

1 st place = 15 points	6 th place = 10 points	11 th place = 05 points
2 nd place = 14 points	7 th place = 09 points	12 th place = 04 points
3 rd place = 13 points	8 th place = 08 points	13 th place = 03 points
4 th place = 12 points	9 th place = 07 points	14 th place = 02 points
5 th place = 11 points	10 th place = 06 points	15 th place = 01 point

The times from each race day will be used to determine the places. Times will be posted by noon on the 2nd day. A racing team must race both days at a sanctioned race to receive prizes unless the track is deemed unsafe. In such a case that the track is deemed unsafe everyone will receive points and their prizes.

- a. You must be an ACwRA member to participate in any ACwRA race.

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION

- a. There will be eight classes at each race plus the special events.
 - 46" and under mules
 - 46" and under ponies
 - 52" and under mules
 - 52" and under ponies
 - Big Horse
 - Big Mules
 - Buckboard 52" and under ponies
 - Classic Wagons

- b.
 1. All teams will be charged a fee of \$5.00 per head before each race season or during race season, prior to racing. Officials designated by the Association will measure only 46" and 52" teams. Photos will document this. In event of a change of animal this process will need to be repeated.
 2. Measuring will be 10:00 – 10:30 am Saturday before races at the race track. Any team proven guilty of using an illegal pony or mule shall be disqualified from the Association for the remainder of the race year. Ponies and mules will be standing naturally while being measured. Pulling on their heads is not allowed.
 3. All 46" and 52" mules and ponies must measure under 46" and 52". You must notify your Board of Director if you switch animals anytime during the year.
 4. Teams may move across in height classes. Example: A big horse team may run in both the Big Horse class and the Classic division. But no team will be allowed to move up or down in height classes. Except in the event of an injured animal then a substitution can be made by a smaller height animal. This is to ensure that all classes remain equally competitive.
 5. All buckboard and classic wagons will be weighed before or right after their first race.
- c. There will be a veterinarian on call, with contract, within 1 hour, and a trailer to be used as a horse/mule ambulance. This will be provided by the **track owner**.
- d. There will be an appropriately staffed ambulance on the ground while the races are in progress. This will be provided by the **track owner**.
- e. There will be a Judges Meeting to be conducted by the Chairman of the Judges Committee or his/'her designate two (2) hours before post time on Saturday in the area of the announcers stand. All officials for the weekend's races are to attend.
- f. There will be a Driver's Meeting to be conducted by the Head Judge or his/'her designate one and a half (1.5) hours before post time on Saturday in the area of the finish line. Attendance is not mandatory, but drivers and their teams are responsible for information that may be given.
- g. Teams will be expected to call in their team(s) on CALL-IN-Dates. This makes the race performance run smoothly and is more exciting for spectators. If a team fails to show for a race then there will be a penalty of \$25.00 per team (except in an emergency). There will be a charge of \$25.00 to every add on team before that team is put on the racing line-up. These charges must be paid in cash to the Treasurer or Secretary, and they will notify the Head Timekeeper, before competing in any racing event.
- h. There will be no alcoholic beverages allowed on or in the immediate area (within 50 yards from the inside boundary of track) by ACwRA participants during the races. This will result in disqualification of the race team(s) for the day and possible rejection from the ACwRA.

- i. Any ACwRA member fighting at any ACwRA function and/or race, from the time you arrive until you leave, not just during the actual races, will result in disqualification of the race team(s) for the day and possible rejection from the ACwRA.
- j. Any ACwRA member using loud offensive and/or loud abusive language during the races will result in disqualification for the race team(s) for the day and possible rejection from the ACwRA.
- k. After being brought before the Board, if an ACwRA member(s) is found at fault, the following penalties will be applied:
 - i. **First Offense** – If a member of a race team, your team will be disqualified for the day. An ACwRA member but non-racer will be fined \$50.00.
 - ii. **Second Offense** – If a member of a race team, your team will be disqualified for the weekend. An ACwRA member but non-racer will be fined \$100.00.
 - iii. **Third Offense** – Any ACwRA member brought before the Board and found at fault three (3) times will be rejected from the Association.
 - iv. If a racer does not pay his/her fine then his/her ACwRA membership will be rebuked.
- l. Track Owners or Association Officers/ Directors will not be held responsible for accidents or loss of property.
- m. **Coggins Papers are required at ACwRA events.**
 - i. No coggins with a date past a 12 month period will be accepted.

(2) OFFICIALS

- a. All rulings on situations not covered in the rule book are to be made in the sense of fair play by the Head Judge. **All decisions made by the Head Judge are final.**
- b. There will be one member of the ACwRA officers available to represent the Association and assist the other officials.
- c. There will be one timer for each wagon running per heat. The finishing times should be posted as soon as possible after the last race of the day.
- d. There will be a flagger for each wagon running per heat to flag the finish. The flagger shall flag the nose of the team pulling the wagon at the finish line, with two flaggers, one on each side.
- e. There will be a sufficient number of judges to insure that each team (wagon, members, and outrider) complete the course correctly and to be sure that the outrider is in front of his/her wagon.
- f. There will be one starter using a blank pistol to start all heats. He/she will say “cooks, load your wagon,” wait until the cooks are safely into their wagons, and then he/she will fire the starting pistol. The starter will be within 20 feet of the back of the wagons. Restarts will be at the discretion of the Head Judge.
- g. There will be no yelling or harassment of officials, if done team could face penalties for the day or weekend.

(3) THE RACE TRACK

- a. The starting line will be five yards from the starting barrels.
- b. The starting barrels will be no less than 15 yards apart.

- c. The recommended length of the track distances are as follows:

46" classes	~	440-460 yards
52" classes	~	600-650 yards
Big Mule Class	~	600-650 yards
Big Horse Class	~	700-750 yards
Buckboard Class	~	600-650 yards
Classic Wagon Class	~	700-750 yards

All turns must be 300 feet wide, if possible.

These are the minimum and maximum distances for sanctioned races. These distances may be changed by the Track Approval Committee or by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

- d. A race committee representing the ACwRA will make an inspection of all newly approved race tracks. The committee will also inspect any established races if instructed to do so by the Board of Directors.
- e. The track will be inspected by at least one judge and an association official for safety before the races begin each day.
- f. There is no outside perimeter to the race track.

(4) THE RACING WAGON

- a. The racing wagon will have no less than four wheels and be pulled by a team of two horses or mules. It will have bows on the back with an outside measurement of no less than four feet from front to back at the top of the bows, front and back. The bows will be covered with a tarp and the team's name or brand must be on the tarp. Numbers or colors must be on each wagon, outrider horse and each team member except in case of emergency.
- b. The classic wagon: The wagon will weigh no less than 1000 pounds. If someone else believes the wagon weighs less than 1000 pounds, they can put up \$50.00 and the wagon must be weighted. If the wagon does weigh 1000 pounds or more, the money goes to the Association. If it weighs less than 1000 pounds, the money is returned to the person who put it up and the team will be disqualified for that weekend. The wagon bed is to be at least 10 feet, 6 inches. The sideboards are to be a minimum of 12 inches high. The tarp must be at least three feet high measured from the floor of the wagon and at least six feet long at the top of the bows. The wheels must be constructed from wood and/or metal with no bearings. Wagon accessories at the beginning of the race must include a lantern, skillet and water barrel.
- c. The Buckboard: The wagon must weigh at least 500 pounds. If someone else believes the wagon weighs less than 500 pounds, they can put up \$50.00 and the wagon must be weighed. If the wagon does weigh 500 pounds or more, the money goes to the Association. If it weighs less than 500 pounds, the money is returned to the one who

put it up and the team will be disqualified for that weekend. The wheels must be constructed of wood and/or metal with no bearings. No tarps are required. A sign with the team's name or brand must be placed on both sides of the wagon. The lettering must be at least four inches.

(5) THE RACE

- a.
 1. Only two teams will race per heat. The first team listed will start on the left the first day and then move to the right on the second day.
 2. Each team should line up on their respective side of the line and not interfere with the other team at the start. One team will turn right one day and left the next. The teams will be placed in heats before the races and will run in their heat each day.
 3. Teams will be called two times at two minute intervals before being disqualified for a no-show.
 4. There will be no restarts unless there is an interference with team. The team that is interfered with will be the one getting the restart. **The only one that can call a restart is the Head Judge.**
 5. Baulking Rule: If a team is not moving when the other team crosses the finish line this is considered baulking and the team will be disqualified. If a team has stopped due to equipment problems they have one minute to begin moving again after the other team crosses the finish line.
 6. All holders for teams will need to stand on spectator side of track until time for their team to race, not on the infield side. After race has started then move back to spectator side of track.
- b.
 1. If a team goes to the inside of a barrel into the infield, they may return to the racetrack at the same place and complete the race.
 2. If a team hits a barrel on the inside of the track while racing, that team will be disqualified if the barrel goes to the right of that wagon. If the barrel goes to the left of that team, you will not be disqualified.
 3. If a team high centers a barrel and it comes out behind the wagon, you will not be disqualified.
- c. **THE DRIVER**
 1. The driver's job is to drive the wagon, trying to keep the team and wagon on the race track.
 2. Buggy whips are allowed to be used only by the driver if driver has both checklines in his/her hands. No hot shots, sticks, clubs or compressed air devices shall be used on the team and nothing shall be thrown at the animals by any team members.
 3. A maximum of two holders per team will be allowed at the starting line. No other assistance may be provided by these holders unless humans/animals are in danger, nor shall they interfere with the opposing team.
 4. There will be no intentional walking starts.
 5. Driver must be in wagon when it crosses the finish line.

d. THE COOK

1. The cook's job is to load the bedroll (blanket) into the back of the wagon when the starting judge says "cooks, load your wagon" and then he/she must get into the wagon. Only the corner of a blanket must be touching the ground.
2. The cook cannot whip the team or use any other devices on the team.
3. The cook must circle the appropriate barrel each day.
4. The bedroll (blanket) must be touching the ground and the cook behind the wagon. If the cook has attempted to get the blanket (bedroll) into the wagon and it is hanging out of the back of the wagon, the outrider can push it into the wagon. If it comes out during the race the only one that can retrieve it should be the cook.
5. The cook and blanket must be in the wagon when the wagon crosses the finish line.
6. The bedroll (blanket) should be no smaller than 30" X 50". It must be **the same color as the wagon tarp or team colors and have the team name on it** and be furnished by a race team. If this is not done, the team will receive a DQ.

e. THE OUTRIDER

1. The outrider's job is to load the oven (box) in the wagon after the starting judge fires the starting gun. Then he/she may mount his/her horse or mule.

The oven (box) is the outriders sole responsibility to see that it is in the wagon at the finish line. At no time may the cook load the oven into the wagon, if it comes out at any time during the race the outrider must return it to the wagon.

2. The outrider may not have help mounting his/her horse or mule. If the horse gets away from the outrider he can have help catching his/her horse.
3. The outrider must circle the same barrel as his/her team has circled. If the barrel is knocked out of position, the outrider may circle the spot or the barrel of his/her choice.
4. The nose of the outrider's horse/mule must cross the finish line before the noses of the team pulling the wagon.
5. The oven (box) must be touching the ground when the starter shoots the starting gun. The outrider can have his/her hand on the box. If the box comes out during the race the only one to retrieve it should be the outrider.
6. There will be no gadgets to help with loading the oven into the wagon.
7. The oven (box) should be no smaller than 9" X 11" X 16". It must be painted to match your tarp or have team name on it.