



**ADOPTED - June 5, 2006**  
**AMENDED - July 22, 2014**

## **TENNESSEE AGRITOURISM ASSOCIATION BYLAWS**

The name of this association shall be Tennessee Agritourism Association. Referred to herein as the Association.

The mission of the Association is to promote quality growth and development of agritourism in Tennessee.

### **Article II - Purpose**

The members of this association have voluntarily associated themselves together in an organization to carry out the following purposes:

1. Provide informational, networking, educational, and other activities that support agritourism operations.
2. Promote the growth of agritourism throughout the State of Tennessee.

### **Article III - Membership**

1. Annual membership shall be extended to any person, organization, agency, or business interested in agritourism (irrespective of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability) that pay dues to the Association in the appropriate category and amount.
2. No membership in the Association shall be assignable or transferable to any member. No membership shall pass to any legal representation of any deceased member.

3. Classification of membership shall include voting members (active) and non-voting members (associate, honorary) as follows:

3.1 Active member: An establishment operating an agritourism venue will be considered an active member. A representative of that establishment shall have voting rights and may serve as an officer or committee member. One vote per establishment.

3.2 Associate member: Persons interested in agritourism or representatives of organizations or firms whose activities are pertinent to the purpose of the association, including but not limited to UT Extension personnel, tourism professionals, and members of rural service organizations. Associate members shall not have voting rights but may serve on a committee.

3.3 Honorary member: Honorary membership may be conferred on individuals recommended to the officers who have contributed significantly to the growth and support of the agritourism industry. Approval of honorary membership is by majority vote of the association membership.

#### **Article IV - Dues**

An annual membership fee of \$100 shall be collected from each Active member. Associate members will have an annual membership fee of \$25. The fiscal year shall be January through December.

1. New membership shall be effective upon receipt of dues. and remain effective until the end of the fiscal year.
2. Dues are to be paid by January 31 of the new fiscal year.
3. Due reminders will be sent out by the Treasurer by October 31 in the year prior to membership dues collection. If not paid by February 28, the members will be notified that they are being dropped from membership.

#### **Article V - Board of Directors**

The board of directors shall be elected by the membership at the annual meeting for expired or vacated positions.

1. Each elected board member will serve a term of one year, up to five consecutive terms if elected by the membership.
2. The elected board members will seat their Executive Officers from their ranks by a majority vote of the Quorum.
3. A Quorum of the board members will consist of a majority of those seated.
  - a. A Quorum may be reached by electronic, or phone attendance at the meeting of the Board of Directors.

## Executive Officers

The Officers shall be the President, Past President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Parliamentarian. These officers shall be selected by the board of directors.

1. The term of office for officers shall be one year up to three (3) consecutive years.
2. Officers positions will be as described in the Board Operating Policies & Procedures Manual

## **Article VI - Sponsorship**

The Association may accept sponsorship funding and partner in activities so long as not part of the Association's Bylaws are compromised or jeopardized by the activity.

## **Article VII - Meeting of Members**

The minutes of all meetings shall be reported to the membership at the regular meeting of the Association. No action or vote at a meeting of the Association shall be valid unless a quorum of 10% of the active membership is present. Meetings shall be annual, regular, and special.

1. An annual meeting of the membership will be held. It shall include the election and installation of board members for expired or vacated terms, reports of the affairs of the Association, and any other business which may be properly brought before the meeting.

Nominations for Board Member positions shall be accepted by the secretary, up to three weeks before the annual meeting.

The slate of nominees will be presented to the membership no less than one week before the annual meeting.

Votes may be placed online up to two days before the vote or in person at the annual meeting.

2. Regular meetings of the board of directors shall be held quarterly to conduct affairs of the Association.

3. Special meetings of the members for any purpose may be called by the president or by vote of the majority of the board officers. Notice of such a meeting shall be given in such a manner that all members shall receive it at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Business transacted at any special meeting shall be limited to the purpose stated in the notice.

## **Article VIII - Amendment of Bylaws**

Proposed changes to the bylaws requires a two (2) week prior notice before an annual, or regular meeting, and the adoption of any amendments shall be by  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote of the membership responding as required by the bylaws. Those members not in attendance at the meeting may respond by mail or e-mail to the Secretary. Response must be received by the Secretary two (2) days prior to the meeting.