

Nov. 10, 2015

### **Maryland Horse Council (MHC) Voting Policy on Newly Introduced Issues**

**Policy:** At the discretion of the Executive Committee, MHC may require written responses on votes on newly introduced issues of significant interest to the MHC membership.

**Discussion:** MHC resolves most routine issues via voice vote at MHC Board of Directors Quarterly Meetings or via paper ballots distributed at those meetings. However, some issues require Associations to consult with their membership, and Directors at Large to consult with their constituents, and those issues require a written response on behalf of the organization or membership group involved.

#### **Procedures:**

1. The Executive Committee will identify issues that require written responses and will communicate those issues and any explanatory or supportive materials to the Board of Directors, requesting a written response and specifying deadlines for responses. These communications may be by email, US Postal Service, or any other means that will ensure timely distribution to all members of the Board of Directors.
2. MHC Associations will provide written responses to votes either on their Association letterhead or on a pre-printed ballot supplied by MHC, and send via e-mail or hard copy to the MHC Association Manager by the established deadline.
3. Directors-at-Large (DAL's) will provide written responses for their specified membership categories on a pre-printed ballot supplied by MHC, by their deadline and following consultation with their respective membership groups (Farms, Businesses, Charity/Foundations, and Individuals).
4. The Association Manager will forward Association and DAL votes to the MHC Secretary for tabulation.
5. The Secretary will inform the officers of the MHC of the final vote tabulation.
6. The MHC President will inform membership of final position in writing via e-mail within a reasonable time following tabulation of the votes, and orally at the next following Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting.