**

**VALLECITOS SPURS BY-LAWS**

**Revised 5/1/2024**

**1****. Organization Information**

A***.*** The name of the organization shall be “Vallecitos Spurs Gymkhana Club” or

“V-Spurs”.

B. The purpose of the organization shall be to promote interest in horses, a sense of

responsibility, goal orientation and good sportsmanship. V-Spursis a family organization to support horse and owner rights

C. The organization shall be non-profit, with the intention to spend all money collected.

Monies will be spent for year-end awards, monthly show awards, operating

expenses, arena deposits, and any expenses needed to cover the new season.

            D. The organization shall have a club logo as above.

            E. The official club colors shall be Black, Red and Gold.

F. The Board of Directors (BOD) shall consist of, President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate past President, Volunteer Coordinator, 3 Directors at Large, Award Coordinator, Assistant Award Coordinator (non -voting position)and a social media person (non-voting position). All BOD will have voting rights, none of the assistants to BOD positions will have any voting rights until they become the primary for that position. There will be a non-voting position of assistant secretary.

**2. Membership**

A. This organization shall be open to any person ages 4 and older who desires to learn

and share their knowledge and or skills about horses and horse husbandry.

Membership runs 1 year from the date of sign –up. The minimum age of 4 can be waived, but needs to be requested by legal guardian and approved by majority board vote. This is to make sure that the rider has the skillsets req to be safe and that they are wearing the appropriate riding attire per CGA rules.

B. Each member accepts responsibility to do is or her part for the club when joining

V-Spurs. Member volunteers are vital for running the show. The parents (of minor

members) must also accept certain responsibilities. Members and parents will be

requested to assist as per their membership requirements, (working or non-working).

C. Parents with minors riding must stay on the show grounds. Any minor without

          parents on the grounds must have an adult responsible for them with a signed

medical release or they will not be able to ride due to insurance and medical

emergencies.

D. Membership to the V-Spursis a privilege. Members are expected to comply with all

rules of the organization and CGA. They must also conduct themselves with proper and respectful demeanor. Violations of this regulation constitute grounds for expulsion. Membership shall be terminated by a 2/3 vote of the board. A thorough discussion of complaints must precede a vote to expel a member. The member under discussion must be advised of this meeting and given sufficient notice to allow them to attend said meeting.

E. MEMBERSHIP PROCESS

                  1. Pay any and all money owed from previous season

            2. Must fill out application and parents must sign for minors under 18 years of age.

3. Signing of application also absolves V-Spurs; its officers, and board members,

from liability for any accident or injury that may occur through participation

of club activities.

                  4. Dues are payable annually from date of original membership.

**3. Nominations and Elections**

            A. Be an active member of V-Spurs in good standing for one year.

            B.  Be willing to serve for a period of one show season.

C. All active board members must be over 18 with the exception of the Youth Coordinator.

D.    Officers and board members may be removed from office by a 2/3 vote of the board.

E. Either the President or Vice-President of V-Spurs MUST be a CGA certified judge.

F.    Any member may nominate themselves or another member who meets the qualifications

of the office and has accepted the nomination.

G.    If no nominations are made, the board assumes that the members are satisfied with the

Officers and the ruling body will not change.

H.    Elections shall be held prior to the first show of the season. Normally elections will take place at the awards banquet. Written notice of the elections will be provided on the website. All members in good standing at least 12 years of age may vote.

**4. Divisions, Point Accrual, and Awards**

A. Divisions and points will be determined annually by board of directors before the start of the first show of the season. You may not sign up below where you were qualified in the prior season. You may not sign up in a division above or below that which you are qualified in. You may accumulate points in the division you signed up in and above – Based on your times.

B. Points are accrued at each show on the following eligibility requirements:

1. The rider is a V-Spurs club member in good standing, and has no outstanding monies due.

2. The rider has made a “Good Ride” in an event.

3. All lead liners will receive a day award.

4. All lead liners who qualify for yearend awards will receive a year end award.

C. Points are awarded on the following schedule:

* + 1. 1ST PLACE - 11 POINTS                   6TH    PLACE – 5 POINTS
    2. 2ND PLACE - 9 POINTS                    7TH    PLACE – 4 POINTS
    3. 3RD PLACE - 8 POINTS                    8TH    PLACE – 3 POINTS
    4. 4TH PLACE - 7 POINTS                    9TH    PLACE – 2 POINTS
    5. 5TH PLACE - 6 POINTS                    1OTH PLACE – 1 POINT
    6. DISQUALIFICATION – O POINTS.

1. Ties receive the same placing, thus forth eliminating the place below. For example 2 riders tie for 1st, the next placing will be 3rd.

1. Day high point placings 1-5 for FC-AAA will be awarded to the 5 riders in each division who acquire the most points in the highest division placed. In the event of a tie the rider with the most 1st ‘s, 2nd ‘s, etc. will be awarded high point

2. Day awards for AAA+ will be the following:

1. If only one AAA+ rider qualifies the will receive the following day awards:
   1. Receive a third-place award if completes one AAA+ time
   2. Receive a second-place award if completes two AAA+ times
   3. Receive a first-place award if completes three AAA+ times
2. If there are more than one AAA+ qualified riders that receive plus times, the day award will default to computer for points and placing.

E. Year-end awards will be awarded by divisions using accrued show points to all qualified

riders. A horse/rider combination will receive their award in the division in which they have

the highest placement. Year-end awards are subject to the BOD’s review and approval.

Additionally, the following eligibility requirements must be met:

1. Signed up as V-Spurs club member

2. Be a member in good standing with no back monies owed and volunteer hours

completed by end of last show of the season.

3. Rode 4 events per show and 7 shows per year (4 per day on a 2-day show).

4. If the horse becomes lame/gets hurt during a show and the member would like

credit for completing the show toward year end awards the rider must do the

following:

1. Have board member visually look at injury during the show the day that it happened
2. Submit a vet note to board for approval

F. All new or existing horse/rider combinations must qualify to ride in any division. Qualifying riders may be placed into a division at any time during the show at the discretion of the show board.

G. To qualify for AAA+ horse: a horse/rider combination must ride 3/6 AAA+ in one show. For a 2 day show it would require 5/13 to move up. For End of year points placing for AAA+ as follows:

* + 1. Received 200 points for first-place award.
    2. Received 150 to 199 points for second place award.
    3. Received 100 to 149 points for third place award.

H. If a horse/rider bumps to a different speed division (FC to A example) the horse/riders lower division (ex. FC) points will carry toward yearend placing. The horse/rider will only accumulate points in their current division (ex. A) and up. The club will leave it to the discretion of the rider if they want to bump after the May show.

I. To qualify for FC for AAA: You will be moved up a speed class if you run 4/6 or 5/7 times outside your division in one show. For a 2 day show it would require 9/13 to move up.

1. If you have been moved up at any time during the last season you have a one-time

option of requalifying your horse if you feel that the move-up was inaccurate of your

horse’s abilities.

2. You are only given this option on the 1st show you ride of the new season; it must

be approved by the BOD.

3. It requires a 2/3 vote of the board to requalify your horse/pony during the season. Must be done prior to “2” above.

J. Set ups

1. Are run only if time permits.

2. Set ups must be requested 48 hours in advance of the show. Riders requesting and

riding in set up events are responsible for setting up and tearing down the event

K. Lead line

1. Helmet is mandatory for all Lead Line riders. The animal being led shall be in

normal tack with the addition of a halter and lead rope. The lead liner must have a

competent/ responsible person lead lining them. The rider must be able to maintain a

safe seat in the saddle, without assistance from a person on the ground and able to

hold the reins.

2. It will be the judge's discretion if it appears to be dangerous for the child, they can

stop the ride.

**5. Point transfers**

A. A rider may transfer points (per 4-I above) to a substitute horse if they meet the

requirements:

                  1. Injury to regular horse

                  2. Death of regular horse

                  3. Loss of lease.

                  4. Other board approved reason Point transfers are subject to board approval. They

are not for reasons within your control (selling, pregnancy, etc.)

B. A substitution request must be filed and approved by board prior to point transfer

   C. A signed vet slip with business address and phone number must be presented with

substitution form

            D. The substitute horse must ride in the qualifying division except when the following

                  requirements have been met:

1. Ridden the substitute horse in a V-Spurs show within the past12 months.

**6. State Scholarships**

A. State scholarships requirements are the following:

1. For riders that have never competed at the CGA State Championships will be

considered first.

2. Families who have more than one rider wanting to attend the State show will be

eligible and considered depending on funds available.

3. Riders that works the most and gets donations or finds ways to get scholarship

support will help in higher consideration.

4. Needs to volunteer above and beyond the required volunteer hours

5. Scholarship member must help with play day shows and youth events for the 2

day shows

1. Must be qualified for year-end awards
2. Must pay for and attend entire State show prior to being reimbursed by club.
3. During state show rider must represent Vspurs and ride with Vspurs club in grand entry and volunteer for event that club signed up to run.

6. The amount awarded for scholarship will be determined each year and will be

based on funds raised throughout the year and how much the person volunteered

during shows throughout the year.

7. To apply the member must write a letter to the board stating why they would like to attend the CGA State Championships and why should the club choose them. The letter can either be hand delivered or e-mailed to a board member. Cut off for receiving letter will at the end of the Jan show each year.

**7. General Information**

            A. All riders must be current CGA members

1. No rider shall ride with the V-Spursuntil all money owed from any previous or

current year is paid.

1. All returned checks will be charged the current bank fee per occurrence.
2. Individuals who have 2 returned check within a season will be required to pay

cash.

B.     Calendar

1. The V-Spurs calendar will match the CGA calendar year beginning with the

2022/2023 season and all future seasons.

2.    V-Spurs year-end award banquet will be held at the end of each season.

C.     Refunds/credit will not be given unless a horse or rider becomes injured during the

show. Show management must approve the refund/credit.

D.     There must be ALWAYS one adult present at the timekeeper table during an event

being ran

E.      Placing and/or data input will only be completed by an authorized board member or

other board approved person.

F.     SMOKING is only permitted in designated areas of Walnut Grove Park per the city.

G.   Obscene, vulgar, or any other inappropriate behavior by riders or spectators is

      prohibited and cause for dismissal from the show and grounds.

H.     Abuse or mistreatment of horses or any other animal on show grounds will not be tolerated and is grounds for immediate dismissal from show grounds.

            I.    Riders must be in CGA approved attire.

J.       ALL RIDERS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 ARE REQUIRED BY CGA AND ***VSGC*** TO

WEAR APPROVED PROTECTIVE EQUESTRIAN HELMET! NO EXCEPTIONS.

Any deviation of this rule will cause the forfeit of any and all points accrued at the show.

            K. The board has the option of making any changes/amendments to these by-laws needed

during the show season with a unanimous vote.

L. Per San Marcos City rules there is no Alcohol in walnut grove park.