MIDWEST POLE BENDING ASSOCIATION
BY-LAWS AND RULES 2027

ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE
A. The name of the Association will be the Midwest Pole Bending Association LLC
B. The Midwest Pole Bending Association, hereinafter referred to as MPBA, shall be set up as a wholly owned subsidiary of Verna Hultman, 16031 Lake Blvd, Center City, MN 55012

ARTICLE II. BYLAWS
A. Points will be posted toward MPBA standings after membership fees are paid in full to the MPBA office.
B. Membership is OPEN to anyone.
C. Points will be tabulated on events in MN, WI, IA, ND, NE, MO and SD and their bordering states. The only exception is the National Pole Bending Association finals if representing/sponsored by MPBA.
D. The MPBA competition year is November 1st through October 31st.
E. The MPBA Membership year is November 1st through October 31st.
F. Annual Dues are $40 for Open; $30 for Youth.
G. Youth age is 18 and under as of January 1st of the competition year.

ARTICLE III: OFFICERS
A. Officers of the MPBA shall consist of Director and Assistant Director.
B. A third party treasurer will audit the books annually of the MPBA.

ARTICLE IV: AWARDS
A. Points are accumulated November 1 – October 31.
B. Awards will be presented at an awards event to be held at a designated place and time.
C. Awards guaranteed for Top 5 in 1D, 2D and 3D for the Open Division and Top 3 for Youth Division.
D. In the case of a tie, the MPBA will flip a coin to determine the winner.
E. Any state with over 25 members will have additional state awards. All other states will be added for a "combined" award.
F. For the End of Season standings, a member keeps points only from the division in which they have the highest standing. Points from other divisions will be dropped allowing lower places to move up. Points accumulate Jan 1-Oct 31st each year.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND PRIVILEGES
A. All members are expected to uphold the MPBA purpose and good name.
B. Members are not required to participate in fundraisers. However, award donations are always welcome!
C. All members will give as much recognition to the donors of awards as possible throughout the Pole Bending season.

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ARTICLE VI. DIVISION
A. OPEN: Members 19 and over as of January 1st of competition year. Youth riders have the option of earning points in the Youth or Open division. Their choice must be declared on the membership form.
B. YOUTH: 18 years of age or younger as of January 1st of competition year.

ARTICLE VII: POINTS
A. Points will be awarded using a 3D format. The splits will be determined based on how the producer submits the results. For 2D results; 1D and 2D points will be awarded. For 4D+ results; 1D, 2D, and 3D points will be awarded based on full second splits.
B. Points will be distributed based on total number of riders in the class.
1-10 - 10 points for 1st place in each division
11-20 - 20 points for 1st place in each division
21-30 - 30 points for 1st place in each division
31-40 - 40 points for 1st place in each division
41+ - 10 points added for every 10 additional riders
C. If a rider has more than one horse in the same division, the higher placing finish will be used to tabulate points.
D. Points are based on runs only; points are not awarded for averages.
E. A maximum of two runs will be counted per day.
F. Double point shows are allowed with a $30 per show sanctioning fee. Producer Application forms available online. A "show" is defined as a single day or up to two runs per weekend.
G. Points may be submitted online at www.midwestpolebending.com, or by taking a picture of the results and emailing to midwestpolebending@hotmail.com or via facebook messenger.
H. Year End Awards to be based on TOP 40 point slips turned in during the competition year. Awards will be given to the highest placing for each rider. If a rider places in more than one division, the lower placing will ratchet to the next rider.

ARTICLE VIII: SHOW REQUIREMENTS
A. The producer must have a standard pole bending pattern as shown below. A rider and horse run past a timer line to the end of a line of six poles, then turn the end pole and weave down through the pattern, again turn at the last pole and weave back up, then run back home across the timer line. The fastest time will win. The pole pattern consists of plastic poles that are set 21 feet apart and the timer line 21 feet from the first pole. If a pole is knocked over, a 5-second penalty is assessed or a "no time" given.
B. Shows must have "open" entry. If an association membership is required for the show, a "non-member" provision must be available to allow anyone to participate.
C. Electronic timers are preferred, but not required.

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