

# **CANADIAN BLONDE D'AQUITAINE ASSOCIATION**

## **CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS**

**AMENDED AUGUST 22, 2007 (passed at 2004 AGM)**

**AMENDED DECEMBER 15, 2015 (passed at 2015 AGM)**

**AMENDED NOVEMBER 19, 2020 (passed at 2018 AGM)**

**AMENDED May 24, 2022 (passed at 2021 AGM)**

# CANADIAN BLONDE D'AQUITAINE ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

as of May 24, 2022

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**1. NAME**

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The name of the Association shall be "CANADIAN BLONDE D'AQUITAINE ASSOCIATION"

**2. OBJECTS**

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The Association shall have for its objects the encouragement, development and regulation of the breeding of Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle in Canada. The terms "Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle" or "Blonde d'Aquitaine breed" wherever used herein refer to registered Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle. To facilitate the achievement of such objects, the Association may:

- a) keep a record of the breeding and origin of all Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle and collect, preserve and publish data and documents relating to same;
- b) maintain standards of breeding and origin of economic importance to beef production and carry out a system of registration;
- c) adopt means from time to time to protect and assist breeders engaged in propagation and breeding of Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle in compliance with the Animal Pedigree Act or any regulation made thereunder;
- d) maintain efficient supervision of breeders of Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle to detect, prevent and punish fraud;
- e) compile statistics of the industry and furnish official and authentic information thereto;
- f) in order to implement and achieve the foregoing, to make all necessary contracts and agreements and to make, alter and repeal regulations subject to the provisions of the By-Laws;
- g) the Blonde d'Aquitaine association will encourage and endeavor to facilitate the importation of cattle into Canada.

**3. MEMBERS**

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- 1) There shall be the following classes of members:
  - a) Honorary Members: The Association, by ordinary resolution of a general meeting may appoint Honorary Members of the Association if the Board of Directors has, by prior resolution thereof, named the proposed member or members and recommended that such appointment be made for life, or for a term, as the case may be, but such Honorary Members shall take no part in the management of the Association's affairs, and shall have no vote and shall not be entitled to hold office in the Association, other than the office of Honorary President. Notwithstanding anything herein contained, any honorary membership may at any time be revoked by recommendation of the Board of Directors, confirmed by ordinary resolution of a general meeting.
  - b) Active Annual Members: Active Annual Members shall be those individuals, partnerships and companies actively engaged in the breeding of registered Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle, who apply for Active Annual Membership and are accepted as such, and who pay the prescribed fee annually.
  - c) Active Life Members: Active Life Members shall be those individuals, partnerships and companies who are actively engaged in the breeding of Blonde d'Aquitaine Cattle, who shall have applied for Active Life Membership and who shall have paid the prescribed fee in effect at the time they applied for Life Membership. The Board of Directors may declare a member inactive after three consecutive years in which no Registration or transfer activity takes place and at the same time notifies the person that membership services shall cease.

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- d) Active Junior Members: Active Junior Members shall be those individuals who have not yet attained the age of 18 years, who apply for Active Junior Membership and who are accepted as such, and who pay the prescribed fee. Junior Members shall have no vote and shall not be entitled to hold office in the Association.
- e) Associate Annual Members: Associate Annual Members shall be those individuals, partnerships or companies who have an interest in Blonde d'Aquitaine Cattle, such as a commercial breeder, a bank or newspaper, who have applied for membership and paid the prescribed fee. Associate Members will have a voice at meetings but no vote, nor may they hold office, and shall not be entitled to record, register or transfer at member rates. Other services shall be as for regular members.
- 2) Application for membership shall be in writing, and each applicant, on becoming a member, shall agree to be bound by the Constitution and amendments therein and all rules of the Association, but the Association shall have power to reject any application for membership. Application for partnership or incorporated company membership shall specify the person authorized to vote, act or sign for the partnership or company. A member of a partnership or company, other than the person mentioned in the application, may be authorized by the partnership or company to act or vote at any meeting of the Association.
- 3) All members in good standing shall, as a matter of contract and except as hereinafter provided, enjoy the same rights and privileges and be subject to the same liabilities as the original incorporators of this Association. No member who is in arrears of membership or other fees shall enjoy such rights and privileges.
- 4) A member in good standing is a member who has complied with the regulations as hereinafter set forth and who is not in arrears of membership or other fees or dues suspended.
- 5) Financial liability of a member of the Association shall be limited to the amount due from them in respect to their membership, registration and transfer fees.
- 6) No member shall be entitled to any of the rights and privileges of the Association during any year until his annual fee for that year is paid.
- 7) No member shall be entitled to vote or give notice to amend this Constitution who is in arrears of membership dues or other fees. No member or authorized representative thereof shall hold office who is not a Canadian resident at the time of the election. No applicant shall be entitled to vote until his application for membership has been accepted.
- 8) The membership year of the Association shall correspond with the calendar year.

**4. SUSPENSION, EXPULSION, OFFENCES AND PENALTIES**

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- 1) Suspended Member: A suspended member is one who has been deprived of the privileges of the Association automatically, or by decision of the Board of Directors, for a stated period of time or until such time as the requirements of the Board of Directors have been complied with.
- 2) Suspended Registration: A suspended registration is a registration of pedigree or transfer that has been placed under suspension by the Board of Directors of the Executive Committee, on account of some irregularity; such suspension to remain until same has been lifted by resolution of the Directors of the Executive Committee.

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- 3) Expulsion: Expulsion means depriving a person of the privileges of the Association indefinitely or for such period of time as may be determined by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors.
- 4) The Board of Directors shall have the power to suspend or expel any person who fails to observe any rule or regulation set forth in this Constitution or whose conduct is, in the opinion of the Board, prejudicial to the interest of the Association. The procedure for filing complaints with the Board is outlined under Discipline Committee 8 (h). A person so suspended or expelled shall, after the expiration of sixty days, have the right to apply to the Board of Directors for reinstatement and shall, on application, be reinstated at the next meeting of the Board, provided a majority of the members of the Board present thereat vote in the affirmative. If the Board of Directors refuse to reinstate a person so suspended or expelled, such person shall have the right to apply for reinstatement by the next succeeding General Meeting, but reinstatement by a General Meeting shall be only by a vote of two-thirds of the members present thereat and voting.
- 5) A person who automatically suspends himself under any rule or regulation of this Association shall, after the expiration of ten days, have the right to apply to the Executive Committee for reinstatement and shall, on application, be reinstated at the next meeting of the Committee, provided a majority of the members of the committee present thereat vote in the affirmative. If the Executive Committee refuses to reinstate a person automatically suspended from membership, such person shall have the right to apply for reinstatement by the next succeeding General Meeting of the Board of Directors, but reinstatement shall be only by a vote of two-thirds of the Directors present thereat and voting. If reinstatement is refused, the member shall have the right to apply for reinstatement to the next General Meeting of the Association.
- 6) Any person expelled from membership by any other organization incorporated under the Animal Pedigree Act, shall not be eligible for membership in this Association and, if they are a member of this Association at the time of such expulsion, their membership shall thereupon forthwith terminate or be suspended.
- 7) Any person so suspended or expelled shall have no claim against this Association or any interest in the property or assets of this Association.
- 8) Registration or transfer of ownership of an animal is made on the understanding that the particulars given on the application are correct. If it is subsequently discovered that the particulars given are incorrect or fraudulent, the registration or transfer shall be canceled by this Association. The certificates of animals registered incorrectly may be canceled and reregistered by the owner at the expense of the original applicant for registration or transfer, but it is understood that this Association shall not be held responsible for any loss or damage that may be sustained through suspension, cancellation or correction of any registration or transfer.
- 9) When, as the result of an inspection of the manner in which private records are being kept and identification practiced by any breeder, it is shown that the regulations in that regard, as laid down herein, are not being observed, the Board of Directors may immediately suspend or expel such member, and if such inspection should indicate that the private records and identification system are in such a state of confusion as to raise a doubt as to the identity of any number or all of the animals in the herd, the Board of Directors may suspend or cancel registration of any or all cattle registered in the name of such breeder.

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- 10) The Minister of Agriculture shall be given notification of the expulsion or suspension of any member of this Association. Similarly, notification of the reinstatement of a member, or the suspension or cancellation of a registration certificate or registration or transfer, shall be given.

**5. OFFICES**

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The Head Office of the Association shall be in Ottawa, Ontario.

**6. FISCAL YEAR**

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The Fiscal Year of the Association shall correspond with the calendar year.

**7. DIRECTORS, OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

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**1. Directors**

- a) The affairs of the Association shall be under the control and supervision of a Board of nine (9) Directors. A director nominated and elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Association shall hold office for three (3) years. Three (3) Directors will be elected each year at the Annual General meeting of the Association.
- b) At any given time, the number of Directors, the manner or representation, whether by province or otherwise, and the manner of election of the Directors, shall be determined by the Association at an Annual Meeting.
- c) Five members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- d) Questions arising at any meeting of Directors shall be decided by a majority of votes and, in the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman of such meeting, in addition to his original vote, shall have a second or casting vote.
- e) If a director does not attend more than three consecutive Board meetings, they may be asked to resign.
- f) In the event of a vacancy occurring on the Board, the Board may appoint another member to serve until the next Annual Meeting.

**2. Officers**

- 1) The Officers of this Association shall be a President, a Vice-President, and a Treasurer elected from the members of the Board of Directors. In addition, there shall be a Secretary-Manager, as well as such other officer or officers as the Board of Directors may at any time and from time to time deem it advisable to elect or appoint.

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- 2) Election, Tenure and Removal: All Officers of the Association, with the exception of the Secretary-Manager, shall be elected by and from the Board of Directors at its Annual meeting. Each officer elected shall hold office for a period of one year, or until the next Annual meeting of the Board of Directors. At any meeting the Board may appoint additional officers to serve until the next Annual meeting of the Board of Directors and until his successor has been elected, unless sooner removed by the board of Directors.
- 3) President: The President, subject to the control of the Board of Directors, shall:
- a) Sign, either alone or with the Secretary-Manager, the Treasurer or proper officer, all certificates of membership, contracts, deeds, mortgages, leases and other documents and instruments upon which the President's signature is authorized or required by law;
  - b) Call all meetings of the membership;
  - c) Preside at all general meetings;
  - d) Be Chairman of the Board of Directors and do all such matters and things in addition thereto as the Board of Directors may from time to time request;
  - e) Present at each Annual Meeting a report of the activities of the Association;
  - f) Call meetings of the Board of Directors when required, and
  - g) Perform all duties and functions normally incident to his office save as such duties and functions may be restricted by the Board of Directors, as well as all duties and functions properly conferred upon or requested of him by the Board of Directors;
  - h) Serve no more than three (3) consecutive years.
- 4) Vice-President: The Vice-President shall assist the President in the exercise of his duties and shall assume the duties of the President in the event of his absence or resignation from office. This person shall be a member of the Executive Committee and may be designated by the President to act in his behalf in fulfilling any of his duties.
- 5) Secretary-Manager: The Secretary-Manager shall be appointed by the Board of Directors to be the managing, administrative and clerical officer of the Association, and shall act as the authorized representative of the Board in hiring, discharging, directing the duties, salaries and other compensation of the employees of the Association. Secretary- Manager, subject to the control of the Board of Directors shall:
- a) Be responsible for the establishment and maintenance of all herd books, and records of the Association;
  - b) 1. Be the legal custodian of all the books, papers, deeds and instruments and records of the Association;  
2. Be the legal custodian of the articles of incorporation of the Association;
  - c) Appoint such assistants and employees as may be deemed necessary by the Executive Committee for the effective conduct of the business of the Association;
  - d) Attend and keep the minutes of all the meetings of the membership and Board of Directors in one or more minute books provided for that purpose;
  - e) Send notices of all members' and Directors' meetings when and as required by these By-Laws and in conformity herewith;
  - f) Sign with the President all contracts, deeds, mortgages, leases and all other documents upon which the Secretary-Manager's signature is authorized or required;
  - g) Perform all other such duties and functions properly conferred upon or required of him by the Board of Directors; and
  - h) Keep at the Head Office a book containing a copy of the By-Laws of the Association with all the amendments thereof, which shall at all reasonable times be open to the inspection of members who may make copies thereof.

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- 6) Treasurer: The Treasurer, subject to the control of the Board of Directors, shall;
- a) Have custody of and be responsible for all funds, money and securities of the Association and keep proper books of account containing entries of all such matters or things as are usually entered in the books of account;
  - b) Supervise receipt of monies due and payable to the Association;
  - c) Select the corporate depositories subject to the approval of the Board of Directors;
  - d) Sign or countersign any and all documents and instruments upon which the Treasurer's signature is authorized or required; and
  - e) Perform all duties and functions properly conferred upon or required of him by the Board of Directors.

In the event the Board of Directors should appoint one individual to act as both Secretary-Manager and Treasurer, this person shall perform the functions as listed of both the Secretary-Manager and Treasurer.

- 7) Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall consist of:
- a) The President, who shall act as Chairman of the Committee;
  - b) The Vice-President;
  - c) The Treasurer;
  - d) One or more additional Directors.
- Each retiring President of the Association shall be an ex officio member of the Executive Committee until such time as the successor in office is replaced by a newly-elected President.
  - This Committee shall act as the governing body of the Association in matters not requiring the full decisions of the Board of Directors, and shall manage its business and affairs, and enforce the By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of the Association as determined by the Board of Directors in order to carry out the purposes of the Association.
  - A majority of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; three members shall concur in all votes for the appropriation or expenditure of money.
  - In case of any vacancy occurring in the Executive Committee between annual meetings of the Board of Directors, the Board shall have the power to fill the vacancy.
  - A copy of the minutes of each Executive Meeting shall be forwarded to each Board Member within ten days after the meeting.

8) Auditor: The Association, at each Annual General Meeting, shall appoint an Auditor or Auditors. Duties shall be to examine the books of account of the Association, vouchers for all payments, and certify the usual statements of receipts and expenditures, and assets and liabilities for the year, for presentation to the next Annual General meeting.

9) Representatives: Representatives to organizations shall be elected at the Annual General meeting but, if for any reason any of these are not so appointed, the Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint the same.



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**3. Committees**

The Board of Directors may appoint from their number and/or from other members of the Association, Committees whether special or standing, and may name one of the Committee members to serve as Chairman of such Committee. In addition to any special Committees to be appointed by the Board of Directors, there shall be in any event, the following standing Committees:

- a) Financial Committee: This Committee shall be responsible for overseeing the financial matters of the Association and for preparing the annual budget for the Association. The Treasurer (or Secretary-Manager acting as Treasurer) shall serve as an ex officio member of this Committee.
- b) Import-Export Committee: This Committee shall deal with all matters of policy regarding the importation/exportation of Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle and/or beef from/to Europe and other countries.
- c) Show Committee: This Committee shall be responsible for arrangements regarding the showing or exhibiting of Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle and establishing and awarding of prizes for show or carcass winners.
- d) Technical Advisory (Performance Standards) Committee: This Committee shall be responsible for investigating the performance standards of the Blonde d'Aquitaine breed, for suggesting changes in performance measurements or minimums, and for conducting whatever activity is deemed advisable to maintain breed improvement and educate the members of the Association therein.
- e) Nominations Committee: This Committee shall be appointed at least ninety (90) days in advance of the annual meeting, and shall thereafter within forty-five (45) days of the Annual Meeting, file with the Secretary-Manager in the office of the Blonde d'Aquitaine Association, its selection of names nominated to the position of Director of the Association to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Such list shall be included with the notice sent to the membership calling the Annual Meeting. Additional nominations, where the nominee has consented to stand, shall be received from the floor at the Annual Meeting and voting shall be by ballot for the exact number of vacant Board positions to be filled.
- f) Resolutions Committee: This Committee shall be appointed at least ninety (90) days in advance of the Annual Meeting, and shall thereafter, within forty-five (45) days of the Annual Meeting, file with the Secretary-Manager in the office of the Association, the proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Association to be voted on at the Annual Meeting by the general membership. Such amendments shall be included in the notice sent to the membership calling the Annual meeting.
- g) Sales Committee: This Committee shall suggest policy and standards pertaining to the selling at auction of Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle whether the sale is managed by the Association or a private concern.
- h) Discipline Committee: The Discipline Committee shall consist of five members of which three may constitute a quorum. The Discipline Committee shall meet wherever the Committee considers appropriate, to hear and determine charges against persons brought before the Committee as hereinafter provided.
  - 1) Upon a complaint to the Secretary-Manager by any member of the Association, the Secretary-Manager may, and upon the instruction of any Director, shall investigate any allegation that a member of the Association has violated the Constitution, By-Laws, rules or regulations of the Association or has so conducted themselves that their continued membership may be detrimental to the reputation of the Association or the achievement of its purpose.

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- 2) Upon the completion of such investigation, the Secretary-Manager may, and upon the instruction of a Director of the Association, shall request that the Discipline Committee may meet, and after hearing shall determine the matter and shall dismiss the complaint, censure the member, suspend the member, or expel the member from the Association and the decision of the Discipline Committee shall be recorded in writing with the reasons thereof.
- 3) The Secretary-Manager shall, by notice in writing, mail to the member whose conduct forms the subject matter of the complaint, by registered mail addressed to the member at their last known address, fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled date of the meeting of the Discipline Committee a notice in writing setting out the nature of the complaint, the date, time and place of the Discipline Committee meeting, with or without counsel or witnesses, they appear in person or by counsel at the Discipline Committee meeting. The Discipline Committee may proceed to determine the matter in his absence.
- 4) The person making the complaint may appear at the meeting of the Discipline Committee with or without counsel or witnesses, and the Secretary-Manager shall forward a copy of the notice required by subsection (3) hereof to that member at the same time and in the same manner as the notice to the person whose conduct forms the subject matter of the complaint.
- 5) The Secretary-Manager may retain and instruct counsel with respect to the hearing of any complaint by the Discipline Committee and may appear with or without counsel or witnesses at all meetings of the Discipline Committee.
- 6) Where the Discipline Committee censures, suspends, or expels any member, such member may appeal to the Board of Directors of the Association by filing with the Secretary-Manager a Notice of Appeal within fifteen (15) days of the date of the mailing of the notice of the decision of the Discipline Committee, whereupon the Board of Directors shall hold a hearing and the provisions of this article with respect to notice and hearing before the Discipline Committee apply mutates mutandis.
- 7) The Board of Directors shall, after the hearing of the appeal, dismiss the appeal and confirm the disposition of the complaint made by the Discipline Committee or may make any other disposition of the matter that was open to the Discipline Committee to make, and shall record its decision in writing with the reasons thereof.
- 8) The Board of Directors may direct the publication of the final disposition of any complaint with or without names.
- 9) Written notice of any disposition of a complaint by the Discipline Committee or the Board of Directors shall be mailed to the member whose conduct forms the subject matter of the complaint by registered mail addressed to the member at the address to which the notice of hearing was mailed.
- 10) Where, as a result of the final disposition of a complaint, a member has been suspended or expelled, the records of the Association shall be amended accordingly and that member's privileges as a member of the Association shall forthwith be suspended or terminated, as the case may be.
- 11) It is the obligation of every member of the Association, whenever requested by the Secretary-Manager, to attend the hearing held by the Discipline Committee and/or the Board of Directors, and to give whatever information and produce whatever documents may be required for the proper determination of matters pending before those Committees.

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- 12) The Board of Directors may, unless the complaint is dismissed, in addition to the power hereinbefore recited, require that any member whose conduct forms the subject matter of a hearing pay to the Association its reasonable costs incurred in and about the investigation and hearing of a complaint, including the traveling expenses of the investigators, counsel and witnesses and professional fees and any other necessary disbursements.
- 13) Instead of mailing the notice hereinbefore mentioned, such notices may be served personally and in the event the date of service shall be deemed to be the date of mailing.

## **8. PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATIONS**

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Members of this Association in good standing may organize Provincial Associations under By Laws or Constitution approved by the Board of Directors of this Association. The activities of any such Provincial Association shall be confined solely to its own Provincial interest and shall not conflict in any way with the activities of this Association. No more than one Provincial Association in each Province shall be organized unless authorized at an Annual Meeting.

## **9. MEETINGS**

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- 1) The Annual General Meeting of the Association
  - a) shall be held at such time and place as decided by the Board of Directors. Other General Meetings shall be held at the time and place fixed by the Board of Directors. A notice of at least thirty (30) days shall be given by circular letter, postage prepaid, to each of the members at his last known post office address appearing on the books of the Association, OR, in the event of the Association issuing an official publication, a notice published therein shall be deemed sufficient. A copy of the notice calling the Annual or General meeting shall be forwarded to the Minister of Agriculture for Canada, in like manner as to the members of this Association.
  - b) The membership of the Association will be consulted in writing at their last known address and replies from this consultation must be returned to the CBDA office within 60 days of the official mailing of the notice of intent to 9-1b.
    - 1) The changing of the Association articles of incorporation
    - 2) The amalgamation of the Association with one or more other Associations
    - 3) The dissolving of the Association.
- 2) Notice of any meetings of the Board of Directors, other than the one immediately following the Annual General Meeting, shall be mailed, postage prepaid, to each of them fourteen (14) days at least before the date of the meeting, to his last known post office address appearing on the books of the Association, or by other means at least five (5) days before the date of the meeting.
- 3) A meeting of the Board of Directors may be held on shorter notice or without written notice, providing all directors have given their consent to the meeting being held. A meeting of such consent shall be entered in the Minutes.
- 4) Notice of meetings of the Executive Committee shall be mailed, postage prepaid, to each member thereof fourteen (14) days at least before the date of the meeting, to their last known post office address appearing on the books of the Association

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- 5) Meetings of the Executive Committee may be held on shorter notice or without written notice, providing all have given their consent to the meeting being held. A meeting of such consent shall be entered in the minutes.
- 6) For the transaction of the business of the Association at an Annual or other General Meeting, a quorum shall be fifteen (10).
- 7) At the written consent of five (5) members, the President shall call a special general meeting of the Association at such place as he may designate, which meeting shall have the same status as if it had been called in the regular way by the Board of Directors of this Association, but such meeting shall have no power to amend this Constitution.
- 8) A copy of the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be mailed within thirty (30) days following such meetings, to each Director, and to the President and Secretary of each Provincial Association.
- 9) No one individual shall be permitted to carry any more than two (2) proxies at any Annual or General Meeting of this Association. Such proxies shall be presented to the President or Chairman at the time set aside for IDENTIFICATION OF MEMBERS or, prior to a vote being called. Only original proxies with the embossed CBDA stamp will be accepted, and only those members who had membership paid upon mailing of the 30 day official final notice of said meetings will be eligible to hold or send proxy votes.
- 10) Notification or information in this section nine (9) may be given/distributed through email, written letter or official Breed publications.

**10. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

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The order of business at all annual and general meetings shall be as follows:

- 1) Identification of Members
- 2) Reading Minutes of previous meeting
- 3) Report of Officers, Directors and Committees
- 4) Correspondence
- 5) Unfinished business
- 6) If Annual Meeting, report of election of Directors
- 7) New business
- 8) Appointment of Auditor
- 9) Adjournment

NOTE: The above order, with the exception of (1) Identification of Members, may be changed at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

**11. AUDIT AND ANNUAL REPORT**

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The Board of Directors, at each annual General Meeting, shall submit a complete report of its acts and of the affairs of the Association; it shall present a detailed statement duly audited of the receipts and expenditures of the preceding year and of the assets and liabilities of the Association. A copy of this report, the Officers elected, and also general information on the affairs of the Association shall be sent to the Minister of Agriculture for Canada, within thirty (30) days after the annual meeting.

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**12. EXPENSES, INCOME AND PROPERTY**

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The income and property of the Association from whatever source derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion and furtherance of the objects of the Association, and no part thereof shall be paid or transferred directly by way of bonus or otherwise as profits or gains to members of the Association, past, present or future, or to any person claiming through any member, provided, however, that nothing therein contained shall prevent the bona fide payment or remuneration to any secretary, treasurer, officer, clerk or employee, or other person or persons for services actually rendered the Association, whether such are members of the Association or not, and the expenses of the Directors or other Officers incurred in doing business of the Association.

**13. BOOKS OR RECORDS**

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- 1) A Register, to be known as the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Herd Book, shall be maintained and compiled annually by the Association, in such form as may, from time to time be approved by the Board of Directors.
- 2) Private breeding records: There shall be kept by each breeder a private record which shall contain full particulars of their breeding operations. This record shall, at all times, be open to the inspection of officials of this Association and officials of the Department of Agriculture for Canada.

**14. AMENDMENTS**

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The Constitution may be amended at any General Meeting of the Association by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present, but no amendment shall be valid until approved by the Minister of Agriculture for Canada. Notice of all proposed amendments shall be in writing and signed by two members in good standing and given to the Secretary in advance of a General Meeting and they shall be included in the notice calling such meeting; otherwise, the meeting shall have no power to deal with the same.

**15. CORPORATE SEAL**

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The Seal, as stamped in the margin hereof, shall be the corporate seal of the Association.

**16. REGISTRATION OF PEDIGREES**

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- 1) There shall be furnished for all living animals eligible, a Certificate of Registration. The Certificate shall be in such form as decided upon by the Board of Directors of this Association.
- 2) Any person suspended or expelled from membership shall not be allowed the privilege of registering pedigrees in the records of the Association.

**17. IDENTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION OF TATTOO LETTERS**

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- 1) A breeder must apply to the Association for identification letters for their exclusive use.
- 2) Animals must be identified with tattoo marking in the ear specified by the Association with the registered identification letters of the Owner of the animal at birth, and a serial number followed by the designated year letter to signify year of birth. The letter "C" will signify that the animal was born in 1971, "D"- 1972, "E" – 1973, etc. The letters "V", "I", "O", "Q" shall not be used as designating year letters.

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- 3) All calves must be identified by tattoo markings before they are six (6) months of age and before applying for registration. No two animals, regardless of sex, may be tattooed with the same identification.
- 4) After the expiration of five (5) years, registered tattoo letters may be forfeited if they have not been used in recording animals by the Registered Owner during that period. Such letters may be allotted to another breeder.
- 5) The Board of Directors shall be empowered to make rules, with regard to re-tattooing animals where tattoo letters or numbers faded to a degree that they are difficult or almost impossible to read.

**18. REGISTRATION OF PREFIXES AND NAMING ANIMALS**

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- 1) A member may register a prefix for their exclusive use in naming animals owned by them at birth. A prefix registered under this regulation shall not be used by any other person, partnership or corporate body in naming animals for registration.
- 2) In registering a prefix, priority in use shall be considered. Any dispute between breeders as to priority right to a prefix shall be referred to the Executive Committee for decision.
- 3) A prefix may be transferred on application to the Association by the Registered Owner.
- 4) A registered prefix may that has not been used in the naming of registered animals may be cancelled after a period of five (5) years.
- 5) A registered prefix may be used by a son or daughter who is a junior member, providing written consent of the registered owner is on file with the Association. This shall not apply to prefixes registered in the ownership of partnerships or companies.
- 6) Names of animals should not be duplicated. The right is reserved to change any name when necessary, preserving however, as far as possible, some characteristic of the name given on the application. Imported animals may be renamed and the Board reserves the right to request a name change.
- 7) A name shall not contain more than thirty (30) letter spaces or characters including numeral affix. Letters or numerals may be changed upon application made prior to the compilation of permanent records. In the case of imported animals, all requests for name changes must occur within thirty (30) days after the on-farm quarantine.
- 8) The Association reserves the right to refuse any name which may be misleading, or any name which may be misleading as to the origin or relationship of an animal.
- 9) Names of members of the Royal Family or Leaders of National Governments of the day shall not be used.
- 10) The Executive Committee may approve a change in the name of an animal providing there are no registered offspring. A new application for registration must be completed and signed by the Owner at birth, then presented to the Association with the Certificate of Registration and the necessary fee. If a registered prefix was used in the original name, it must also be used in any suggested change.

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**19. APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION**

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- 1) Application for Canadian registration of Blonde d'Aquitaine animals must be:
  - a) In the case of natural service, made to the Association on forms supplied by it with all the blank spaces filled in with ink or typewritten and signed by the Owner at time of birth and by the Owner of the sire at the time the dam was serviced.
  - b) Accompanied in the case of artificially sired calves by a breeding receipt (standard c.c. Report of Service form) signed by the inseminator, or breeding declaration signed by the Owner of the dam at the time of service, except where such documents are not available the sire may be identified by parent verification that is approved by the Board.
- 2) Effective January 1, 2004, alternatively, applications for registration may be submitted by electronic means provided the applicant has signed and submitted an agreement assuming responsibility for the accuracy of such applications, and has either established a credit balance or agrees to payment of fees by an accepted credit card.
- 3) Application for registration of animals from other countries must:
  - a) be signed by the importer showing the date of importation;
  - b) be accompanied by the Certificate of registration;
  - c) if a bred female, be accompanied by service information acceptable to the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association (i.e. that used in the country of origin for certification of service).
- 4) Registration of a Canadian born animal must be in the name of the Owner of the dam or the lessee of the dam at the time the calf was born. (See section 21:5)
- 5) Calves born of a multiple birth must have an application completed for each calf, the word "twin" or "triplet", etc. must be included as part of the name. In the application the sex of the other animal(s) must be stated, the female born with a male will not be registered until she has proved to be a breeder.

**20. TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP AND DUPLICATE CERTIFICATES**

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- 1) Application for transfer of ownership of a registered Blonde d'Aquitaine animal must be made by the Owner in ink or typewritten on the reverse side of the Certificate of Registration. Transfers at time of registration may be completed by the Owner in ink or typewritten on the Application of Registration.
- 2) In the case of a female, if bred:
  - a) Naturally. The Certificate of Service must be completed and signed by the Owner of the service sire.
  - b) Artificially. The standard c.c. breeding slip, or a breeding declaration signed by the Owner of the dam at the time of service, must accompany the animal in order that the new Owner may register the resultant calf. Accompanied in the case of Artificially sired calves by a breeding receipt (i.e. standard c.c. Report of Service form) signed by the inseminator, or breeding declaration signed by the Owner of the dam at the time of service, except where such documents are not available the sire may be identified by parentage verification that is approved by the Board.

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- 3) In the case of the sale of an animal, the seller must supply the buyer with a registration Certificate and it shall be the responsibility of the seller to:
  - a) confirm that the tattoo identification is in accordance with the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine regulations (section 18).
  - b) provide the buyer with a Certificate of Registration with complete change of ownership on the Certificate.
- 4) Where a registered animal dies, is sold for slaughter or is used in a commercial herd and not represented as registered, the transfer shall not be registered. A notation in ink stating that the animal died, was slaughtered or is now used in a commercial herd shall be made on the face of the Certificate, and the Certificate shall be forwarded to the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association.
- 5) When an animal is leased for breeding purposes, an application for lease supplied by the Association must be completed and signed by the lessor and forwarded to the Association. The terms of the Agreement shall be fully disclosed on the application. The lessee will in all cases be considered the Owner of the progeny of the leased females. If animals are leased in another country and the resulting progeny are born in that country, the Canadian application for registration of such progeny must be accompanied by the original Certificate of registration from that country of origin.
- 6) Where a registration Certificate is lost, destroyed or unobtainable, a duplicate Certificate may be issued by the Association upon receipt of a statutory declaration from the last recorded Owner. A corrected Certificate of registration or transfer may be issued by the Secretary-Manager upon receipt of a notice of error, but if such correction has been made necessary by the error or omission by the applicant, the duplicate Certificate fee(s) shall be charged.

## **21. RULES FOR REGISTRATION**

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- 1) Animals eligible for registration:
  - a) Those registered in the herd book of an Association in the country of origin and considered eligible by the Board of Directors. The application for registration in Canada must be accompanied by the original Certificate of registration from the country of origin.
  - b) Those whose parents are registered in the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association Herd Book, and provided performance data, required in rules specified by the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine association, have been supplied.
  - c) Animals produced by the transfer of embryos or fertilized ova from one cow to another shall be eligible for registration provided that the genetic parents are eligible and provided that the details of the embryo transfer are certified to the Secretary-Manager by the person performing the embryo transfer.
  - d) Recipient cows must be identified by a tattoo or a numbered tag in each ear.
  - e) The owner of the donor cow must provide a transfer of ownership Certificate if the resultant calf (calves) are born the property of another person.
- 2) Code Letters:

All animals registered in the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine association Herd Book will receive a code letter prefix as part of their registration number which designates their Herd Book Status. The code letters are the following:

  - a) **R** 100% Fullblood animals whose parentage on both sides traces to the French Herd Book
  - C** Percentage animals as outlined in the upgrading section (21.3)
  - D** Domestic purebreds as outlined in the upgrading section (21.3)



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- T Embryo transplant animals
- (P) Naturally polled animals
- b) Proper usage of Code letters – using a given registration number:
  - R 1200 100% fullbloods parentage to FHB
  - C 1200 percentage animals
  - D 1200 domestic purebreds
  - D 1200(P) polled domestic purebred
  - R 1200T 100% fullblood transplant
  - D 1200T domestic purebred transplant

3) Upgrading:

In order to facilitate the development of the Blonde d'Aquitaine breed of cattle in Canada through the widest possible genetic bases, the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association will encourage breeders to engage in an upgrading program using established breeds.

- a) Upgrading may be accomplished using a registered Fullblood, Purebred or Percentage animal. Grade, commercial or registered cattle of other breeds are allowed for the first cross (F1).
- b) Parent stock must be registered through each phase of upgrading.
- c) To determine the percentage of an animal for recordation/registration the percentage of the sire is added to the percentage of the dam, the result obtained is divided by 2, and rounded to one decimal place.
- d) Animals of at least 90% Blonde d'Aquitaine breeding will be accepted as Domestic Purebreds and Registerable.
- e) Animals more than 45% Blonde d'Aquitaine breeding and below 90% are considered Percentage and Registerable.
- f) Males must be above 70% Blonde d'Aquitaine breeding in order to be eligible for Registration.

4) Parentage Verification:

Is the comparison of an animals DNA to the DNA of its sire and dam to determine qualifying parents.

- a) A DNA record of a Blonde d'Aquitaine sire in artificial studs shall be kept on file with CBDA or its designated agent.
- b) Fullblood and Purebred import animals, male & female, will be DNA'ed and this record shall be kept on file with CBDA or its designated agent.
- c) Embryo transplant progeny must be parentage verified to the fullest extent possible before a certificate of registration will be issued by the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association. This shall be done at the owner's expense.
  - Effective January 1, 2005, all Embryo transplant progeny must have a DNA genotype on file with the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association to be eligible for registration. The DNA genotype shall be done at the owner's expense.
  - The Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association reserves the right to request a DNA genotype for the recipient dam that the embryo was implanted into. The recipient dam will be DNA genotyped at the owner's expense. The recipient dam's DNA genotype will be tested by the CBDA's designated agent as a possible dam of the Embryo transplant progeny.
  - The Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association reserves the right to request that all potential sires to which the recipient dam was exposed after the embryos were implanted be DNA genotyped, at the owner's expense. These DNA genotypes

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will be tested by the CBDA's designated agent as possible sires of the Embryo transplant progeny.

- The Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association reserves the right to refuse or suspend the registration of Embryo transplant progeny as per Article 4, Section 2.
  - Please see section 21.7 for rules pertaining to 1/29 Robertsonian Translocation and calves produced by Embryo Transplantation.
- d) The Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association reserves the right to require parentage verification on any registered Blonde d'Aquitaine animal.
- e) Random parentage verification for Purebred and Percentage animals
- i) Domestic Purebreds shall be randomly selected for DNA for parentage verification prior to being accepted for registration. One animal out of every 10 shall be randomly selected. The randomly selected animal and the parents not already DNA'ed, shall have the DNA paid for by the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association. Any randomly selected animal whose parentage cannot be proven will be considered ineligible for registration and the breeder will pay all costs of DNA, collecting and handling of the sample(s).
  - ii) Percentage animals shall be randomly selected for DNA for parentage verification prior to being accepted for registration. One animal out of every 10 shall be randomly selected. The randomly selected animal and the parents not already DNA'ed, shall have the DNA paid for by the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association. Any randomly selected animal whose parentage cannot be proven will be considered ineligible for registration and the breeder will pay all costs of DNA, collecting and handling of the sample(s).
- f) Fullblood Canadian bred animals will be parentage verified and this record shall be kept on file with the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association or its designated agent.
- g) Purebred and Percentage animals resulting from natural or artificial service are not eligible for registration or recordation unless their sire has his DNA kept on file with the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association or its designated agent. This said sire must match to parentage kept on file.
- 5) In case of parentage dispute, the Owner of the animal shall be responsible where proper parentage is not established. Where proper parentage is established, the party requesting the parentage verification shall be responsible for the cost.
- 6) Gestation Period:
- a) Females that are exposed, and/or artificially inseminated to two or more sires within a 14 day period, must have the resulting offspring parentage verified to sire.
  - b) Progeny resulting from an AI mating which gestation period has exceeded three hundred six (306) days or is less than two hundred sixty four (264) days, shall be required to submit proof of parentage before being accepted for preliminary enrollment or registration.
- 7) 1-29 Robertsonian Translocation:
- a) A Blonde d'Aquitaine Bull drawn in an AI stud, after April 1, 1991 must have a normal karyotype status (1/29) on his pedigree on file with CBDA or its designated agent.
  - b) All import animals must, after April 1, 1991 have a normal karyotype record and this shall be kept on file with CBDA or its designated agent.

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- c) Semen and embryo imported after April 1, 1990 must be from parents who are tested and are normal to Robertsonian Translocation. Proof of same must be on file with CBDA or its designated agent.
- d) Embryo Transplant Animals must meet one of these criteria:
  - i) For embryos collected on or after April 1, 1991: A normal status (129N) of both dam and sire, or embryo transplant animal itself.
  - ii) For embryos collected on or after April 1, 1991 with sires born prior to that date: A normal status (129N) of the dam only, unless the sire is a carrier (129C), or has carriers (129C) in his pedigree and the line of inheritance is unbroken by a 129N animal.
  - iii) For embryos collected prior to April 1, 1991: A normal status (129N) when there are carriers (129C) in the pedigree of the dam or sire, and the line of inheritance is unbroken by a 129N animal.
- e) It is mandatory that the 1-29 Translocation status of animals which have been tested be shown on their pedigree.
- f) Whereas such a record or list be on file with the CBDA or its designated agent. Such record of animals testing positive for Robertsonian Translocation 1-29, be updated annually and such list be made available without charge, without prejudice, to all members in good standing, upon request.
- g) Animals born on or after January 1, 2017 with a parent that is a carrier (129C) must be karyotype tested prior to registration.

**22. STANDARDS FOR REGISTRATION**

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The Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine association shall maintain a list of defects known to be inherited and accepted by a 2/3 majority vote at an Annual Meeting to be disqualifying genetic defects. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these By-Laws, Animals expressing any such defect shall be ineligible for registration.

**23. FEE SCHEDULE**

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1. The Board of Directors shall determine the Fee Schedule.
2. The Board of Directors shall supply each member with a Fee Schedule.
3. A written request signed by five (5) members stating changes desired to the Fee Schedule shall be sent to the Canadian Office by Registered Mail or delivered in person for consideration by the Board of Directors.

Notwithstanding anything herein contained, the Association assumes no responsibility, financial or otherwise, for any loss or damages that may be sustained by any individual, partnership, firm or corporation by reason of the suspension, cancellation or correction of any registration, transfer or other documents or by reason of the suspension or expulsion of any member of the Association or by reason of the rejection of any application for membership in the Association.

**24. NON-MEMBERS**

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Any person not a member of this Association registering or transferring animals on the records of the Association shall be subject to the same rules and regulations as a member, except as otherwise specifically provided for.

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**25. EXPLANATION OF TERM [SINGULAR]**

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Wherever the context permits in this Constitution, the singular shall include the plural, and the masculine, the feminine and the neuter.

**26. REPEAL**

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The Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association is incorporated under the Animal Pedigree Act. All Breeders of registered stock must comply with this Act.

**27. COPIES OF BY-LAW MAINTAINED BY**

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A copy of the By-Laws together with any amendments thereto shall be maintained by the Secretary-Manager of the Association and by Secretaries of Provincial organizations. These shall be available for inspection by members of the Association.