

**GUILD OF PROFESSIONAL FARRIERS, Inc.  
(GPF)**

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**

**(Revised September 1st, 2009)**

## **ARTICLE I – TITLE & ORGINIZATION**

### **Section 1 - Name:**

This Association shall be known as The Guild of Professional Farriers, Inc.

### **Section 2 – Organization Structure:**

This Association shall forever remain a not-for-profit organization in fact, and its officers shall comply with the laws of the State of Kentucky.

### **Section 3 – Governmental Agencies:**

This Association shall forever stand ready to work with any government agency that may become involved in any form of regulation of or legal restrictions placed upon the practice of farriery. This association shall vigorously represent our member’s interests in the intelligent development of any such legislation to insure that it protects the rights, responsibilities, and prerogatives of our member professional farriers.

## **ARTICLE II – MISSION STATEMENT**

Our mission is the improvement of the farrier profession. Our member farriers and veterinarians are dedicated to:

1. Developing and documenting the art and science of farriery in a Formal Body of Knowledge.
2. Providing a method of insuring that farrier education advances with the science of farriery.
3. Independently testing and certifying the knowledge and skill of farriers based upon our Formal Body of Knowledge.
4. Ensuring that our individual members continue their education and professional development throughout their careers.

## **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

Categories of membership shall be established by the Board of Directors and defined in the Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

### **Section 1 – Officers:**

The officers of this Association shall be the President, the Vice President, and the Secretary/Treasurer.

## **Section 2 – Officer Elections:**

The method of election, duties, and tenure of officers shall be defined in the Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE V – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Section 1 - Duties:**

The Board of Directors shall manage the business affairs of the Association, have charge of its property, finances, publications, and trademarks, and shall perform such other duties as defined in the Bylaws.

### **Section 2 – Board Members:**

The positions on the Board of Directors, the number of directors, the method of selection or appointment, duties, and tenure shall be defined in the Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES**

Committees may be established in the Bylaws or by resolutions of the Board of Directors. The duties, membership and duration of each committee shall be set forth in said resolution.

## **ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS**

Regular, special, or annual meetings of the Association shall be held as described in the Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS**

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended as follows:

1. The proposed amendment must be submitted to the Board of Directors in writing.
2. The Board shall consider the amendment and decide for or against presenting said amendment to the membership.
3. Should the Board decide in favor of presenting the amendment, they shall proceed as follows:
  - a. The Board shall schedule a meeting for the membership to discuss and vote for or against the amendment.
  - b. The Board shall finalize the wording of the amendment and present it in writing to the membership along with a paper ballot no less than 60 days prior to the scheduled meeting.

- c. Voting members who cannot attend the meeting in person may vote for or against the amendment by mailing their signed original paper ballot with their marked yes/no vote to the Guild secretary/treasurer not less than 15 days prior to the scheduled meeting.
- d. At the meeting the membership may discuss the proposed amendment prior to signing and marking their yes/no vote and submitting their written ballots for a vote tally.
- e. Upon conclusion of the discussion, the Board shall collect the written ballots submitted at the meeting, add them to the mailed-in ballots, and tally the vote as follows:
  - i. The Board shall check and validate all ballots submitted against the current list of voting members and shall discard ballots with names not on the current list.
  - ii. A 2/3 majority of the votes cast and tallied from the valid paper ballots shall be required to carry the amendment.
- f. A carried amendment shall go into effect immediately.
- g. The Board shall document and file the amended Articles of Incorporation with the appropriate state and/or federal agencies within 10 days of the meeting.