

Resolution to Explore Supplemental National-Level Membership Options While Preserving Chapter-Based Membership as BCHA's Primary Structure

Back Country Horsemen of America – National Board Meeting

WHEREAS, Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) is committed to preserving access to public lands, supporting responsible stock use, and strengthening the network of local chapters and state organizations that carry out this mission; and

WHEREAS, BCHA recognizes that some individuals wish to support the national organization's work even if they are not currently able to participate in a local chapter or state organization; and

WHEREAS, BCHA seeks to strengthen its capacity to communicate with supporters through newsletters, email updates, and other informational resources; and

WHEREAS, BCHA acknowledges the potential value of offering additional pathways for individuals to engage with and support the national organization, provided such pathways complement and reinforce the importance of local chapter membership; and

WHEREAS, any national-level membership option should be developed thoughtfully, with input from chapters, states, committees, and stakeholders to ensure alignment with BCHA's mission and organizational structure;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Back Country Horsemen of America National Board establishes a **National Membership Exploration Committee** to evaluate and develop options for a national-level membership structure, including but not limited to an Optional National Supporting Membership category; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this committee shall:

- Examine potential models for national-level membership, including benefits, fee structures, and impacts on chapters and state organizations;
- Consider mechanisms for online enrollment, payment processing, and communication with national-level supporters;
- Develop clear messaging that reinforces the continued importance of joining and actively participating in local chapters whenever possible;
- Solicit input from state and chapter leaders to ensure transparency, collaboration, and broad organizational support;
- Provide recommendations to the National Board for review and possible action at a future meeting;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Board affirms its commitment to supporting this committee's work by ensuring access to staff assistance, communication tools, and other resources necessary for a thorough and inclusive evaluation;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon receiving the committee's recommendations, the National Board will determine whether to establish a national-level membership category, modify existing structures, or pursue alternative approaches that best support the mission and long-term strength of Back Country Horsemen of America.