

# **ORGANIZATION OF RACING INVESTIGATORS, LTD**

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **NAME AND INSIGNIA**

**Section 1.** This organization shall be known as the Organization of Racing Investigators, LTD., and may be referenced by the acronym ORI. ORI was formally organized by its membership on March 21, 2002, after meeting annually since 1990 in an informal capacity. ORI was incorporated as a Not-For-Profit Corporation in the State of New York in the year 2002.

**Section 2.** The official organization seal shall consist of a logo with an outer ring of blue/white braiding encircling an inner blue ring containing the name of the organization in white lettering at the top of the inner ring. Both rings encircle a white colored map of the United States and Canada placed over a red circular background. The acronym ORI in blue lettering appears diagonally centered from top left to bottom right across the map of the two countries. The name of an annual meeting host city may appear in white lettering across the bottom half of the inner blue ring.

### **ARTICLE II**

#### **PURPOSE**

The following are the purposes for which this organization has been created:

- A. To promote the exchange and sharing of confidential information on racing related activity.
- B. To develop personal relationships and trust among members of the organization in order to exchange such information.
- C. To work for the professionalization of racing enforcement through training and education.
- D. To protect and preserve the integrity of pari-mutuel racing for the benefit of the public and racing participants.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **ORGANIZATION**

**Section 1.** The organization shall consist of an eleven member Executive Board composed of the following positions:

- A. A **General Chair** person who normally assumes office from the Vice-Chair position yearly at the conclusion of the Annual Training Conference.
- B. A **Vice-Chair** person elected annually by the membership at the Annual Training Conference.
- C. Five At-Large Regional Representatives elected by the membership at the Annual Training Conference. These positions will represent members located in the Eastern, Western and Central United States districts and the Eastern and Western Canadian districts. The United States districts are geographically determined by international time zones. The Eastern and Western Canadian districts will be determined by the Central international time zone. The Western district will represent all members located west of the Central Time Zone to the International Date Line and the Eastern district will represent all members located east of the Central Time Zone to the International Date Line.
- D. A **Sergeant-At-Arms** elected by the membership at the Annual Training Conference.
- E. A **Secretary** elected by the membership at the Annual Training Conference.
- F. A **Treasurer** elected by the membership at the Annual Training Conference.
- G. A **Past Chair** person (Chair from the previous year).
- H. In the event of a vacancy in the office of General Chair, the Vice-Chair shall hold the office during the interim until automatically assuming the position at the next Annual Training Conference.
- I. The Executive Board shall have authority to fill by appointment any vacancy, *except General Chair*, by selecting a member in good standing. This interim appointment shall remain in effect until voted upon by the general membership during the next Annual Training Conference.
- J. In the event the offices of General Chair and Vice-Chair become vacant simultaneously, Article III Section 1, will govern, with the immediate Past Chair will become being the presiding officer.
- K. The Executive Board shall be the governing body of the Organization of Racing Investigators. They shall establish policy and be the point of contact for the organization.
- L. An amendment to this Constitution may be proposed by any member present at an Annual Training Conference. Such a proposal shall be acted upon by the members present *at the next scheduled Annual Training Conference*. The

Executive Board will ensure that the amendment information will be circulated among the membership between conferences.

M. A two-thirds vote of those members present and in good standing at the Annual Training Conference shall be necessary for adoption of any amendment to this Constitution.

## **Section 2.** Tenure of Office

A. The tenure of office of the **General Chair** person shall be one year, followed by one additional year as **Past Chair** in an advisory position on the Executive Board with full voting privileges.

B. The tenure of office of the **Vice-Chair** person shall be one year with an automatic promotion to the position of **General Chair**.

C. The tenure of office for the three positions of United States **Regional At-Large Representatives** and the **Sergeant-At-Arms** position shall be two years with the **Sergeant-At-Arms** and **Central Representative-At-Large** being elected in even numbered years and the **Eastern** and **Western Representative-At-Large** being elected in odd numbered years.

D. The tenure of office for the two positions of the Canadian **Regional At-Large Representative** shall be two years with these two positions being elected in even numbered years.

E. The tenure of office for the positions of **Secretary** and **Treasurer** shall be two years with the **Secretary** being elected in even numbered years and the **Treasurer** being elected in odd numbered years.

F. Elections shall be held each year at the Annual Training Conference. Persons elected or appointed to any office must be active ORI members in good standing.

**Section 3.** A quorum to act shall consist of six Board members. Timely notice (at least 24 hours advance notification) shall be given to all Executive Board members for all Board meetings. Notification may be made by email or telephone contact and Board meetings may be conducted telephonically via conference call, if necessary, upon approval by a majority of the total Board members present at the outset of the call.

**Section 4.** The following votes are necessary to implement any Board action:

A. Interim vacancies on the Executive Board shall be filled by a simple majority vote of a quorum of members present during a Board meeting and shall remain in effect until acted upon by the membership at an Annual Training Conference.

B. On all ORI matters not specifically designated by these Articles a simple majority of the total Board membership shall be required for approval.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1.** The membership shall consist of the following:

**A. Individual Members**

Any investigator, agent, security person, analyst, or law enforcement officer having primary responsibility for investigating and enforcing pari-mutuel racing rules and laws and who are actively employed by a racing commission, racing board, racing authority, racing association, racetrack security department, the Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau, or a local, county, state, or federal law enforcement agency may apply for membership.

**B. Member Agencies**

Any agency, commission or board, created for the purpose of administering to the regulation of pari-mutuel racing conducted in their jurisdiction, or a racing association conducting regulated pari-mutuel racing activities may apply for membership.

**C. Associate Membership**

Any person, entity, or agency whose membership in the organization may further the goals and purposes of ORI due to their expertise, knowledge, or past membership in ORI as an employee of a member agency may apply for membership. An Associate Member applicant may be approved for active membership when it is deemed that their membership will benefit ORI.

**Section 2.** Membership Dues

**A. Individual membership dues are \$25.00 (U.S. dollars) annually,** payable on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and shall be delinquent if not paid by the start of the Annual Training Conference.

**B. Member Agency dues are \$100.00 (U.S. dollars) annually,** payable on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and shall be delinquent if not paid by the start of the Annual Training Conference.

**C. Associate Members dues are \$25.00 (U.S. dollars) annually if an individual or \$100.00 (U.S. dollars) annually if entity or agency,** payable on January 1<sup>st</sup> of

each year and shall be delinquent if not paid by the start of the Annual Training Conference.

**Section 3.** Applications for membership shall be submitted to the Executive Board and must meet the criteria for membership(Article IV Section A,B,C).

**Section 4.** A member agency or an individual may be suspended or terminated from membership in the Organization of Racing Investigators for engaging in dishonest or other unethical practices, or an application for membership denied, by majority vote of the Executive Board. The decision of the Executive Board may be appealed to the membership present at the next Annual Training Conference. Approval or denial of the Executive Board's actions will be determined upon a vote of two-thirds of those members present during the Annual Training Conference Business Meeting.

**Section 5.** Reinstatement must be by written request and requires a two thirds majority vote of the Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **TRAINING CONFERENCE AND BOARD MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** Training conferences shall include the word "training" in the title or caption.

A. The Annual Training Conference shall be held on a yearly basis unless a date change is approved by the Executive Board, due to events beyond the control of the designated hosting agency.

B. Executive Board meetings may be conducted at any time and the results of the meeting will be published in a timely manner.

**Section 2.** The Annual Conference host may be selected two years in advance at each Annual Training Conference.

**Section 3.** A conference chair person of the primary Host Agency shall be named one year prior to the Annual Training Conference. He/she shall be responsible for arranging all facilities, participation of local dignitaries, and a tentative agenda. He/she shall submit a report on proposals and preparations to the Executive Board.

**Section 4.** The purpose of the Annual Training Conference shall be to share techniques, developments and information relating to enforcement activities and to advise the membership of new trends, technology, and changes in the law and judicial decisions, and to continue to work toward the professionalization of racing enforcement.

**Section 5.** Members shall have the right at the Annual Training Conference to amend or rescind actions of the Executive Board. Such action shall require a two-thirds vote of those members present at the Annual Training Conference Business Meeting. Members shall also have the right to recommend the adoption of new orders, resolutions, By-Laws,

or amendments to this constitution. Roberts' Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all business meetings. Members may not vote by proxy. Members must be present in order to cast a vote.

***THIS CONSTITUTION WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE ORI MEMBERSHIP PRESENT AT A BUSINESS MEETING CONDUCTED ON MARCH 13, 2003 IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS, DURING THE 2003 ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE.***

***THIS CONSTITUTION WAS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE ORI MEMBERSHIP PRESENT AT A BUSINESS MEETING CONDUCTED ON MARCH 11, 2004 IN TORONTO, CANADA, DURING THE 2004 ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE.***

***THIS CONSTITUTION WAS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE ORI MEMBERSHIP PRESENT AT A BUSINESS MEETING CONDUCTED ON MARCH 8, 2011 IN SUNLAND PARK, NEW MEXICO, DURING THE 2011 ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE.***