

BYLAWS
OF
SOUTH DAKOTA CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Article I

Name:

The name of this Association shall be the South Dakota Corn Growers Association.

Article II

Not for Profit:

This Corporation is organized and exists under and by virtue of SDCL 47-22 to 47-28 South Dakota Nonprofit Corporation Act.

Article III

Purpose:

This Corporation is organized to promote corn and improve producer profitability; influence public policy and legislative efforts; educate South Dakota consumers; and increase corn usage in the state of South Dakota, thus improving the quality of life in a changing world.

Article IV

Offices:

The principal office of this Corporation shall be located in the City of Sioux Falls, Minnehaha County, State of South Dakota and the Corporation may have such other offices within or without the State of South Dakota as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine.

Article V

Member:

Section 1. Classes of Members. The Corporation shall have three (3) classes of members designated as "Regular Voting," "Regular Non-Voting," and "Corporate Partnership".

Section 2. Qualifications, Acceptance.

- A) Regular Voting Membership. Any farmer who is engaged in the production of corn in South Dakota, can provide an FSA number and is involved in the day to day decision making on the farm, may become a regular member upon filing an application and paying the annual dues. The spouse of a Regular Voting Member, upon filing an application and paying the appropriate dues, may become a Regular Voting Member. Membership dues must be postmarked or received in the SD Corn Office 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting to be eligible to vote. Failure to remit annual dues will result in loss of membership.
- B) Regular Non-Voting Membership. Any individual engaged in the interest of agriculture production in South Dakota may become a regular non-voting member upon filing an application and paying the annual dues. Failure to remit annual dues will result in loss of membership.
- C) Corporate Non-Voting Partnership. Any business engaged in the interest of agriculture production in South Dakota may become a corporate non-voting partner upon filing an application and paying annual dues. Failure to remit annual dues will result in loss of membership.

Section 3. Voting Rights.

Only Regular voting members of the corporation shall have voting rights. Each regular voting member shall have one vote, in person, at the annual meeting or special meetings of the corporation. No voting by proxy mail shall be permitted. Regular non-voting members and the corporate partners of this corporation do not have voting rights during the annual meeting or special meetings of this corporation.

Section 4. Notification/Mailings.

Regular voting members, regular non-voting members and corporate partners are entitled to receive all mailings, emails, literature and other means of communication of the corporations. Notifications will be posted online at www.sdcorn.org.

Section 5. Acceptance. In order to become a member, an application form must be filled out and payment remitted to the South Dakota Corn office. At that time the candidates information will be reviewed and accepted by the membership coordinator.

Section 6. Termination and Suspension of Membership.

The Board of Directors may, by affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Directors after due notice and appropriate hearing, suspend or terminate any membership detrimental to the Corporation.

- A) The Board of Directors may by a majority vote of those present at any regularly constituted meeting, after due notice and appropriate hearing,

- 1) Terminate the membership of any member who no longer satisfies the

"Qualifications" for membership in Article V, Section 2.

2) Suspend or terminate the membership of any member who is in default in the payment of dues.

Section 7. Resignation. Any member may resign by filing a written resignation with the SD Corn Office, but such resignation shall not relieve the member so resigning of the obligation to pay any dues, assessments or other charges theretofore accrued and unpaid.

Section 8. Reinstatement. Upon written request signed by the former member and filed with the SD Corn Office, the Board of Directors may, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Directors, reinstate such former member to membership upon such terms as the Board of Directors may deem appropriate.

Section 9. Transfer of Membership. Membership in this Corporation is not transferable or assignable.

Section 10. Payment of Dues.

The annual dues for each "Regular Voting" and "Regular Non-Voting" member of this Corporation shall be payable on or before the first day of the member's membership year. A member's membership year shall begin on the first day of the month following the date of their first payment of dues to this Corporation and each anniversary date thereof. Dues, either yearly or paid in advance, shall not be prorated in the event a member terminates their membership.

"Corporate Partnership" of this Corporation runs on a calendar membership year and will be invoiced out by the membership coordinator.

Section 11. Dues not Refundable. Dues paid to this Corporation are not refundable under any circumstances.

Section 12. Certificates of Membership. A certificate of membership shall be issued from the South Dakota Corn Office to all dues paying members of the Corporation.

Article VI

Meetings of Members:

Section 1. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of this Corporation shall be held at a time and place to be designated by the Board of Directors, for the purpose of electing directors and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting.

Section 2. Special Meetings. Special meetings of members may be called by the President or by the majority of the entire Board of Directors, and shall be called by the

President upon written request signed by at least one-tenth of the Regular members, at a location to be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Notice of Meetings. Posted online notice at www.sdcorn.org will state the place, day, and hours of any meeting of members, not less than five (5) days before the date of such meeting, by or at the direction of the President or the officers or persons calling the meeting. In case of a special meeting or when required by statute or by these Bylaws, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be stated in the notice. The notice of the meeting shall be deemed notified once the posting is live via the website at www.sdcorn.org.

Section 4. Quorum. A quorum for the transaction of business at any annual or special meeting of the members of the Corporation shall be nine (9) members. If a quorum is not present at any meeting of members, a majority of these members present may adjourn the meeting to another time without further notice.

Section 5. Resolutions. Resolutions are due and must be submitted to the SD Corn office in writing 30 days prior to the annual meeting. All information must be filled out on the official resolution form and must be signed by a regular voting member and notarized before being mailed or dropped off to the SD Corn office (no e-mailed or faxed forms will be accepted). The official resolution form can be obtained by calling the SD Corn office or by downloading it from the SDCGA website.

Resolutions must receive a majority vote to pass.

The resolution committee shall consist of two board members and one staff person appointed by the President. The resolution committee will review all submitted resolutions prior to the annual meeting. The committee or a designee shall have the authority to combine any similar resolutions that are submitted by the regular voting membership.

Section 6. Exception for Resolutions. Resolutions not submitted pursuant to Section 5 must receive a majority vote of the Board of Directors to be considered at the annual meeting. Resolutions must receive a simple majority vote to pass.

Article VII

Board of Directors:

Section 1. Authority. The Board of Directors shall have the authority and shall be responsible for the supervision, control and direction of the Corporation.

Section 2. Number, Qualification. The business and property of this Corporation shall be managed and controlled by a Board of Directors of up to, but not exceeding, fourteen (14) members. The board will consist of nine (9) district directors, up to three

(3) industry directors and up to two (2) at-large directors. The nine (9) district directors shall participate in the day-to-day operation of the farm, be residents of South Dakota, regular voting members of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association and must not participate in the refunding of the South Dakota Corn Utilization Council checkoff dollars. The nine (9) district directors as deemed necessary will appoint the five (5) remaining directors. Up to three (3) industry directors who shall represent allied industry and will participate in the corporate membership program of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association. Then the remaining two (2) at-large directors shall serve as at-large directors who shall represent South Dakota agriculture, shall participate in the day-to-day operation of the farm, be residents of South Dakota, regular voting members of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association and must not participate in the refunding of the South Dakota Corn Utilization Council checkoff dollars.

Section 3. Classes of Directors.

There shall be one (1) regular voting member elected from the membership body as a district director from each of the nine (9) districts of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association. Up to three (3) non-voting directors shall be appointed by the district directors as industry directors and up to two (2) directors shall be appointed by the district directors as at-large directors.

Section 4. Districts. For purposes of election of district directors, the State of South Dakota shall be divided into the following nine (9) districts:

<u>District Number</u>	<u>Counties Comprising District</u>
I	Clay, Lincoln, Turner, Union and Yankton
II	Lake, Minnehaha, Minor and Moody
III	Brookings, Codington, Deuel, Hamlin, and Kingsbury
IV	Clark, Day, Grant, Marshall and Roberts
V	Brown, Campbell, Corson, Harding, McPherson, Perkins and Walworth
VI	Edmunds, Faulk, Potter and Spink
VII	Aurora, Beadle, Buffalo, Hand, Hyde, Jerauld and Sanborn,
VIII	Bon Homme, Davison, Douglas, Hanson, Hutchinson and McCook
IX	Bennett, Brule, Butte, Charles Mix, Custer, Dewey, Fall River, Gregory, Haakon, Hughes, Jackson, Jones, Lawrence, Lyman, Meade, Mellette, Oglala Lakota, Pennington, Stanley, Sully, Todd, Tripp, and Ziebach

Section 5. Nominations.

The Association Nominating Committee shall consist of two board members and one staff person appointed by the President. The Association Nominating Committee shall nominate 30 days prior to the annual meeting, one willing candidate for the Board of Directors from each district. All candidates will be voted on by the membership body present at the annual meeting.

Section 6. Terms. District directors, industry directors and at-large directors shall serve three-year terms. No director shall be eligible to serve for more than three (3) consecutive three-year terms, except that a director elected for less than one-half of a full term to fill a vacancy or a new directorship by reason of an increase in the number of directors shall be eligible to serve three subsequent consecutive three-year terms.

Section 7. Regular Meetings. The Board of Directors may provide, by resolution, the time and place, either within or without the State of South Dakota, for the holding of additional regular meetings of the Board without other notice than such resolution.

Section 8. Special Meetings/Conference Calls. Special meetings or conference calls of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the President or any two (2) directors. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board may fix any place for the holding of additional special meeting of the Board without other notice than such resolution.

Section 9. Notice. Notice of regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be given at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting by posting it at www.sdcorn.org. Such notice shall be deemed to be delivered once posted online at www.sdcorn.org. Notice for any special meetings and board conference calls will be waived as these meetings may proceed without any notice being posted at www.sdcorn.org. Any director may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of a director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened. Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of, any regular or special meeting or conference call of the Board need be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting, unless specifically required by law or by these Bylaws.

Section 10. Quorum. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board; provided that if less than a majority of the Directors are present at said meeting, a majority of the Directors present may adjourn the meeting to another time without further notice.

Section 11. Manner of Acting. The act of majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors, except where otherwise provided by law or by these Bylaws.

Section 12. Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors or any directorship to be filled by reason of an increase in the number of Directors shall be filled by the Board of Directors. A Director appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve for the unexpired term of his predecessor in office.

Section 13. Compensation. Directors, as such, shall not receive any stated salaries for their services, but by resolution of the Board of Directors, a fixed sum and expenses, if any, may be allowed for the district and the at-large directors who attend at regular, special or other meetings on behalf of the Corporation. Provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any Director from serving the Corporation in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefore.

Section 14. Confidentiality of Information.

- A) Each member of the Board of Directors is obliged to treat with the strictest confidence all classified business and secrets of the association and its subsidiaries of which he or she becomes aware in his or her function as a member of the Board of Directors. This also applies to the period after his or her term of office on the Board of Directors has ended. Each member of the Board of Directors must ensure that all co-workers instructed by such Board of Directors members observe the same level of confidentiality.
- B) At the end of each Board of Directors member's term of office, he or she must return all confidential documents in his or her possession to the Association or guarantee their disposal in a manner that ensures confidentiality is preserved.
- C) If a member of the Board of Directors intends to impart to third parties information which he or she has become aware of in his or her duties as a member of the Board of Directors and which cannot be ruled out upon reasonable analysis as being subject to the duty of confidentiality, he or she must inform the Executive Director and President of the Board of his or her intent in writing, including the identity of the person who is to receive the information with sufficient notice for the Executive Director and President to assess the situation and advise the Board of Directors member accordingly. This also applies to official statements as well as other personal statements made by persons attending Board meetings which in terms of their content and form are clearly only intended for the Board of Directors.

Article VIII

Officers:

Section 1. Officers.

The officers of the Corporation shall be a President, Vice President, a Treasurer/Secretary and any such officers as may be elected in accordance with the provision of this Article. The Board of Directors may elect or appoint such other officers, as it shall deem

desirable. Such officers are to have authority to perform the duties prescribed, from time to time, by the Board of Directors. No person may serve as an officer while serving in any elected or leadership position on a statewide agricultural political board or organization.

Section 2. Election and Term of Office. The officers of the Corporation shall be elected by the Board of Directors at the regular Board of Directors meeting following the annual meeting of the Corporation. Vacancies may be filled or new offices created and filled at any meeting of the Board of Directors. Each officer shall hold office for one year and until his successor shall have been duly elected and shall have qualified. Each officer may succeed himself two years in the same office. All officers shall be elected from among the members of the Board of Directors. Industry directors are not eligible to hold any officers position with in the Corporation.

Section 3. Removal. Any officer or agent elected or appointed by the Board of Directors may be removed by the Board of Directors whenever, in its judgment, the best interests of the Corporation would be served thereby, but such removal shall be without prejudice to the contract rights, if any, of the person so removed.

Section 4. Vacancies. A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise, may be filled by the Board of Directors for the un-expired portion of the term.

Article IX

Executive Committee:

Section 1. Authority and Responsibility. The Executive Committee may act on behalf of the Board of Directors between Board meetings on all matters, except those specifically reserved to the Board by these Bylaws, pursuant to delegation of authority to such Committee by the Board of Directors. Actions on the Executive Committee shall be reported to the Board for ratification at the next Board meeting.

Section 2. Composition and Election. The Executive Committee shall consist of President, Vice-President, Treasurer/Secretary of the Association and the Executive Director.

Section 3. Quorum-Call of Meetings. A majority of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum at any duly called meeting of the Executive Committee. An Executive Committee member shall call such meetings of the Executive Committee as the business of the Corporation may require.

Article X

Contracts, Checks, Deposits and Funds.

Section 1. Contracts. The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents of the corporation, in addition to the officers so authorized by these Bylaws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Corporation and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section 2. Checks, Drafts, Etc. All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the Corporation, shall be signed by such employees and/or officers of the corporation as the board of directors shall determine. However an instrument over \$500.00 shall be signed by one of the officers of the corporation and/or one of the employees of the corporation as the board of directors shall determine.

Section 3. Deposits. All funds of the Corporation shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories.

Section 4. Gifts. The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the Corporation any contribution, gift, bequest or devise for the general purpose or for any special purpose of the Corporation.

Article XI

Books and Records:

The Corporation shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of its members and Board of Directors having any of the authority of the Board of Directors, and shall keep at the registered or principal office a record giving the names and addresses of the members entitled to vote. All books and records of the Corporation may be inspected by any member or his agent or attorney for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.

Article XII

Fiscal Year:

The fiscal year of the Corporation shall begin on the first day of July and end on the last day of June in each year.

Article XIII

Waiver of Notice:

Whenever any notice is required to be given under the provisions of the Nonprofit Corporation Act of South Dakota or under the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation or the Bylaws of the Corporation, a waiver thereof in writing signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice.

Article XIV

Amendments to Bylaws:

These Bylaws may be altered, amended or replaced and new Bylaws may be adopted by majority of the entire Board.

Any changes to the Bylaws made by the Board of Directors may be rescinded by the general membership at a regular meeting that has been called in accordance with these Bylaws. The general membership shall be informed in writing of changes to the Bylaws and the changes will be addressed at the Annual meeting of the Corporation.

These Bylaws adopted-by the Board of Directors of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association at the organizational meeting thereof held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota March 18, 1986.

Article XV

Rules of Order:

Section 1. Rules. The Board of Directors may establish rules that are consistent with these Bylaws for the policies, procedures and programs of the Corporation.

Section 2. Standard Order of Business. For formal meetings, the Board of Directors shall use a systematic plan for the orderly conduct of business, which shall consist of the following:

- a) Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- b) Report of Officers and Boards
- c) Special Orders
- d) Unfinished Business and General Orders
- e) New Business

Section 3. Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the Corporation in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Corporation may adopt. The President shall appoint a member of the Board of Directors or an equally qualified individual to serve as Parliamentarian and he/she

shall serve as Parliamentarian for the purpose of advising the Board of Directors with respect to the Rules of Order of the Corporation.

Article XVI

Indemnification:

The Corporation shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless Officers, Directors, Staff and all “agents” (i.e., anyone acting on behalf of the organization and having approval to do so) against any and all losses, claims, lawsuits, damages, actions, proceedings and other liability, including, without limitation, expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in connection with the settlement on defense of any of the foregoing in which they or any of them are made party or parties, by reason of having been officers, directors or agents of the Corporation, except in relation to matters in which such officers, directors, agents or formal officers, directors or agents shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be liable for gross negligence or willful misconduct in performance of duty.

The Corporation shall obtain and maintain “directors and officers” and general liability insurances consistent with usual limits and coverage recommended for similar organizations. The organization may also obtain and maintain other insurance(s) as the Board of Directors may deem appropriate.

Article XVII

Dissolution:

The Corporation shall use its funds and other assets to accomplish the purpose specified in these bylaws and no part of such funds or assets shall inure or be distributed to Officers, Directors or members of the Corporation except staff and agents of the Corporation, or be used for any other taxable entity or purpose.

In the event of the dissolution of this Corporation, all assets of the Corporation shall be distributed to any organization or organizations selected by its Board of Directors which are qualified as exempt organizations under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, or to local, state or federal governments or agencies thereof for exclusively public purposes.