

## **Applying for the GVHS Board of Directors:**

**Do you want to bring your time, talents and skills to the GVHS Board of Directors? Here are the qualifications and steps needed to apply:**

### **Qualifications:**

- **Read, understand and agree to comply with the GVHS Code of Ethics document. The Code of Ethics applies to Director and Officer candidates the same as elected Directors and Officers.**

#### **Why is understanding and agreeing to the GVHS Code of Ethics important?**

The business of the GVHS is managed under the direction of the GVHS Board of Directors and Officers with guidance from appointed Committees. The code of ethics serves as a code of conduct for society members/volunteers and staff in their capacity as Directors and Officers. This document clearly outlines acceptable and unacceptable actions and behaviors and serves as an important reference for all BOD members when making decisions that may affect the society and its members.

- **Support of the Gypsy Vanner Horse Society as your exclusive Registry of choice through farm promotion (website, advertising etc.) and also through business and personal communications on social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc.) This means nominees must not be members of other Gypsy Horse Associations set up to Register horses (GHA, GHRA, GCDHA, TGCA etc.) Show organization membership is acceptable. It is also accepted that nominee's horses may hold prior registrations with other organizations but it is required that all horses owned by the nominee qualify also hold GVHS Registrations.**

#### **Why is it important that nominees exclusively support the GVHS as their registry of choice and present that clearly in their promotions and public interactions?**

Being a part of the GVHS board comes with a great responsibility to properly represent the Gypsy Vanner Breed and actively educate both our members and those new to this breed on their history, purpose and unique characteristics. The GVHS needs board members who are dedicated to the Gypsy Vanner Breed exclusively because that passion is a vital part of keeping the organization moving forward successfully.

- **Demonstrate understanding of the Gypsy Vanner Horse as a Breed through consistent use of the Gypsy Vanner/Vanner name in farm promotion (website, advertising etc.) and also through business and personal communications on social media (Facebook, Twitter etc.).**

As discussed above, being a part of the GVHS Board of Directors comes with a great responsibility to properly represent the Gypsy Vanner Breed and actively educate both our members and those new to this breed on their history, purpose and unique characteristics. Using the proper and correct terminology is vital to that proper education about the breed and its history.

- **Director and Officer nominees are to have been a general or lifetime member in good standing for at least two years.**

**Why do we require nominees to be a General or Lifetime member in good standing for at least 2 years?**

Being a GVHS General or Lifetime member in good standing for 2 or more years shows a level of commitment to the organization as well as indicating that the applicant has not participated in actions that would cause their membership to be considered "Not in good standing".

- **Director nominees shall have at least one to two years experience serving on a GVHS committee.**

**Why do we want applicants to have sat on a committee for 1 to 2 years before applying for the BOD?**

In spending one to two years working on a committee, we are able to most accurately gauge an applicant's ability to work well with others, regularly attend schedule meetings, demonstrate their commitment to the GVHS, demonstrate their ability to work within the guidelines of the code of ethics and handle situations where their personal opinion or idea is not chosen by the majority. These are all extremely important factors when deciding who we are going to work with for three years at a time with a goal of having a high functioning Board of Directors that can continue to move this organization forward.

- **Candidates with the equivalent amount of time actively participating in and promoting the GVHS in a positive manner at GVHS events, activities, breed demonstrations and GVHS annual meetings, may be considered on a case by case basis.**

The important part of this section is “May be considered on a Case by Case basis”. This means that this option is not necessarily equal to having served on a committee for 1-2 years. When a member sits on a committee they are interacting directly with the GVHS which means multiple Board members, Officers and other Committee members have long standing interactions with this individual. This makes evaluating a potential candidate substantially more accurate. When considering “the equivalent amount of time actively participating in and promoting the GVHS in a positive manner at GVHS events, activities, breed demonstrations and GVHS annual meetings” please note the use of the word “And” and not “Or”. Using this pathway to the GVHS board is not only uncommon but requires participation in all listed options including having attended the GVHS Annual Meeting.

- **A Director candidate must own a registered Gypsy Vanner Horse.**  
A member must own a Gypsy Vanner Horse in order to have a General Voting membership. This rule helps to insure that those volunteering for the GVHS Board of Directors are still currently involved and active within the Gypsy Vanner Breed.