

**OKLAHOMA AVICULTURAL SOCIETY  
BY-LAWS  
(Amended September 2007 and July 2009)**

**ARTICLE I**

Name.

The name of this association shall be **OKLAHOMA AVICULTURAL SOCIETY** (hereinafter referred to as the Association).

**ARTICLE II**

Principle Office.

The principle office of this Association shall be that of the current President.

**ARTICLE III**

Purpose.

The purpose of this Association is:

- A. To promote quality of caged birds along sound avicultural lines.
- B. To monitor legislative activity that might threaten, endanger, or otherwise affect the avicultural community.
- C. To obtain and distribute information by educational speakers, exhibits, and general fellowship necessary to complement the keeping, raising, and breeding of caged birds.
- D. To support and assist other organizations with similar goals or interests, whether state, national, or international.

This Association is not intended as a profit-making organization, nor is it founded with the expectations of making profit. This Association shall use its funds only for objectives and purposes specified by these By-Laws.

**ARTICLE IV**

Membership.

- A. Anyone who is interested in birds and is willing to pursue the purpose and uphold the By-Laws of this Association may become a member upon payment of annual dues.

- B. The classifications of members shall be:
1. Regular Membership – Any person not covered in other membership categories.
  2. Family Memberships – Persons residing at the same address.
  3. Student Membership – Any full-time student
  4. Lifetime Membership – Permanent membership in this Association. Any Lifetime Membership other than a paid Lifetime Membership must be presented to the membership and voted on.
- C. Benefits – Monthly newsletter, library of books and videos, member expertise, and discounts, which may include from some Vendors at the semi-annual bird fairs.
- D. Voting – The affairs of this Association shall be determined by a vote of the currently paid membership with voting privileges as designated below.
1. One vote shall be given to each person with a Regular, Lifetime, or Student Membership.
  2. Two votes maximum shall be given to Family Memberships (one per person).
  3. No proxy votes will be accepted.
  4. Voting may be accomplished by electronic voting system, paper ballot, or other means determined by the Board.
- E. Duration of Membership – Membership shall be for a period of one year which runs from January 1 to December 31, or for the lifetime of the member as determined by the dues paid by said member. Only first time new member dues will be pro-rated. Membership in this Association may be terminated at any time by the voluntary withdrawal of the member. Any and all membership fees will be forfeited upon termination. All rights and privileges of membership in the Association shall cease on the termination of membership. Membership shall be effective on the fulfillment of all obligations to the date of withdrawal.
- F. Suspension and Expulsion – If in any written and signed communication to the Executive Board, any member of the Association shall be charged with conduct detrimental to the objectives or interests of the Association or in violation of its By-Laws or rules and regulations, the Executive Board shall consider the matter. If the Board shall decide to take further action, the Secretary shall send a copy of the charges to the accused member giving them adequate time to reply; whereupon, the Executive Board shall take such further action as it deems proper. If the Executive Board, after a fair and impartial hearing on due notice to the accused member given by the Secretary by registered mail to the accused member at his last known

address at least seven (7) days before the hearing, shall be satisfied of the truth of the charges, the Executive Board may request the resignation of the offending member, may suspend the member for a determined time period, or expel the member. Should the member decline to resign on such request, the member's name shall be stricken from the rolls by the Membership Committee.

## ARTICLE V

### Dues and Fees.

- A. Dues required for membership in the Association and any other fees to the membership or public shall be determined by the Board and approved by a vote of the current members. Dues may be varied from year to year, but dues shall be the same for all members in the same membership category.
- B. Renewal dues must be received each year by the Treasurer no later than the January meeting.
- C. Members, other than Lifetime Members, who have not renewed by payment of dues by February 15, will be dropped from the rolls, forfeiting all membership benefits.

## ARTICLE VI

### Meetings.

#### A. Meetings:

- 1. There shall be meetings of the Association on the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Sunday of each month for the transaction of business and activity as the Board shall determine, unless the meeting date conflicts with a legal holiday when it falls on the Friday before or Monday after the regular meeting date.
- 2. Meetings shall be open to the public. Notice of the meeting and pertinent agenda items shall be included in the monthly publication of the Association and shall be mailed to the last recorded U.S.P.S or electronic mail address of each active member at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting.
- 3. The annual membership meeting for the purpose of electing officers shall take place at the October meeting of the year.

#### B. Quorum:

- 1. At any General Association meeting, all members in good standing present having voting rights constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.
- 2. A quorum of the Executive Board shall consist of a majority of its members.

- C. Order of Business – The order of business shall be as follows:
1. Call to order.
  2. Welcome and announcements.
  3. Approval of the published Minutes.
  4. Presentation and approval of the Treasurer's Report.
  5. Reports of committees.
  6. Unfinished business.
  7. New business.
  8. Adjournment.
  9. Guest speaker or other activities.

The order of business may be altered or suspended at any meeting by a majority vote of the membership present.

- D. Special Meetings – Special meetings of the Association may be called at any time by the President, in the President's absence by the First Vice-President or the Second Vice-President.

## ARTICLE VII

### Executive Board.

- A. The governing body of this Association shall be known as the Executive Board and shall consist of elected members:
1. President
  2. First Vice-President
  3. Second Vice-President
  4. Secretary
  5. Treasurer
  6. One or more Board Member(s) at Large (BML), with the number to be determined by total membership numbers
  - 7.
  8. One or more AFA (American Federation of Aviculture) Delegate(s), with the number to be determined by total membership numbers
  9. Current Committee Chairpersons
- B. Officers, BML members, and AFA delegate(s) shall be elected by ballot.
- C. To be eligible for election as an Officer, members should have attended a minimum of four (4) general meetings in the previous 12 months.
- D. The five (5) elected officers and any elected BML members have sole voting privileges at the Executive Board meetings.

- E. The current Committee Chairpersons and AFA Delegates are to be considered Executive Board members and, as such, are entitled to the same rights and responsibilities as elected Board Members; however, they are not entitled to Executive Board voting privileges, which are reserved solely for the elected Board Members.
- F. The Executive Board shall conduct all business of the Association between the regular general meetings.
- G. All Board members shall attend the Executive Board meetings which shall be held once a month, except December, at a time and place determined by the standing Board and made known to the general membership. In addition, board meetings may be called by the President at any time for the discussion of Association business, and may be held via internet connection should the President deem it necessary.
- H. A BML member shall be elected each year in staggered order and shall serve a two-year term. This will enable at least one BML member to sustain their position with new BML members being elected.
- I. To be considered active Board members, attendance in a minimum of six (6) Board and six (6) General Meetings is required.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Elections.

- A. There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of three members, one from the Executive Board and two from and elected by the Association at the August meeting with the election being in October. Nominations are to be taken from August through September. No nominations will be taken from the floor the date of the election unless there have been no accepted nominations for an office prior to the election date. If, in such event, only one person is nominated, then that person shall be elected by acclamation.
- B. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of officers by the September meeting for consideration of the Association membership at the October meeting. Each candidate must be a member in good standing for at least six (6) months with dues paid up. Officers, one BML member, and the AFA delegates of the Association shall be nominated between August and October and shall be elected by ballot in October. They shall present the name(s) of candidate(s) for each office to be filled. The consent of each candidate shall be obtained before his or her name will be placed on the ballot. Ballots shall be distributed to all members in good standing via newsletter prior to the election. The member receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected to that office.

- C. The sitting President shall appoint a committee to distribute the ballots, collect them, and tally the votes. The totals will be given to the sitting President, and (s)he shall announce the newly elected officers.
- D. Absentee Voting – For amendments to the By-Laws, officer elections, and other issues the Executive Board may deem relevant, absentee voting will be permitted for any member in good standing unable to attend the meeting and vote in person. Issues shall be presented in the Association’s publication prior to the meeting at which the voting will take place. Voting may be accomplished by electronic voting system, paper ballot, or other means determined by the Board.
- E. Although the outgoing officers remain in full charge of the Association until January 1<sup>st</sup>, the interim period from election to installation of officers shall be used for the outgoing and incoming officers and Board Members to hold joint meetings and to acquaint the new members with the affairs of the organization and the systems used.

## ARTICLE IX

### Officers.

- A. Elected Executive Officers – The elected Executive officers of this Association shall be President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- B. Terms of Office – The officers shall officially take office January 1<sup>st</sup> after elections at the October meeting although they shall begin attending board meetings immediately following the election. Officers shall serve for the term of two years and are eligible for re-election with a limit of two (2) consecutive terms in the same office.
- C. In case of a vacancy on the Board or any of the offices, either by resignation or termination, the remaining members of the Executive Board shall approve by simple majority vote, another qualified member who must be ratified or elected by a show of hands at the next General meeting to fill out the unexpired term vacated.
- D. President – The duties shall be those outlined in Robert’s Rules of Order, current edition. The President is specifically charged with the leadership and successful operation of the Association and shall see that the Officers and Board Members discharge their duties to the best of their abilities. For the protection of the Treasurer and the Association, at all money-making activities, a member in good standing shall be appointed by the President to assist the Treasurer in counting all monies received and disbursed. The President shall represent the Association at all times in a proper and impartial

manner. The President, with Executive Board approval, shall appoint and/or reappoint all other committees other than those appointed by the First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer.

E. First Vice-President – The First Vice-President shall perform all the duties of the President during the absence of the President.

1. The First Vice-President shall be the Chairman of the Publications and Advertising Committees.
2. The Treasurer and the First Vice President shall be co-chairs of the Membership Committee. As such, they will make available at the February meeting a roster of the current membership to the members in good standing who request a copy.

F. Second Vice-President – The Second Vice-President shall perform the duties of the First Vice-President during the absence of the First Vice-President.

1. The Second Vice-President shall be the Chairman of the Program Committee.

G. Secretary – It shall be the duty of the Secretary to:

1. Attend all meetings of the Association and to make provisions for the keeping of records of proceedings.
2. Conduct correspondence and carry into execution all orders, votes, and resolutions not otherwise committed.
3. Make Association By-Laws and Robert's Rules of Order available at all meetings of the Association and Executive Board.
4. Chair the Library Committee.
5. Submit copies of all minutes to be included in the monthly publication.
6. At the expiration of the Secretary's term of office, the Secretary shall deliver to the successor Secretary all books and other property of the Association.

H. Treasurer

1. The Treasurer shall keep an account of all monies received and expended for the use of the Association, and shall make disbursements authorized by the Executive Board or as a vote of the current Association members may prescribe.
2. All sums received shall be deposited by the Treasurer in the bank approved by the Executive Board.
3. The Treasurer shall submit a written report at the monthly Board and General meetings, with copies available at that time to members in good standing.

4. Funds may be drawn only on the signatures of either the present Treasurer or President.
5. Funds, books, and vouchers in the Treasurer's hands shall at all times be subjected to verification and inspection by the Executive Board officers of this Association.
6. At all money-making activities, for the protection of the Treasurer and the Association, a member in good standing shall be appointed by the President to assist in counting monies received and/or disbursed.
7. The Treasurer and the First Vice President shall be co-chairs of the Membership Committee. As such, they will make available at the February meeting a roster of the current membership to the members in good standing who request a copy.
8. At the expiration of the Treasurer's term of office, the Treasurer shall deliver to the Audit Committee all books, money, and other property of the Association.

H.

- I. **Members at Large (BML)** – Should be members in good standing who have a desire to promote the best interests of the Association, and who may be interested in taking on an Officer position in the future.
- J. **AFA Delegates** – Must be members in good standing of the Association and the AFA, be aware of AFA activities via that website and magazine, regularly attend General meetings, and at least the three (3) Board meetings prior to the annual AFA convention.

## ARTICLE X

### Committees.

- A. **Publication Committee** – The Publication Committee shall be responsible for the production, publication, and distribution of the monthly newsletter. This committee works closely with the Membership Committee.
- B. **Advertising Committee** – The Advertising Committee shall be responsible for obtaining advertisers for the monthly newsletter and for any and all publications concerning the Association.
- C. **Program Committee** – The Program Committee shall be responsible for the acquisition of the guest speaker or other suitable activities, such as zoo tours or other appropriate activities. In addition, the Program committee shall be responsible for the arrangement of the meeting hall or location as is necessary.

- D. Library Committee – Librarian shall receive and maintain all books, tapes, magazines, CDs/DVDs, etc. belonging to the Association. It will be the duty of the Librarian to maintain up-to-date lists of materials for the newsletter. All materials are to be available for check-out by club members.
- E. Membership Committee – The membership committee shall be responsible for keeping an accurate record of current members. This committee will also be responsible for greeting and signing up new members at activities of the Association.
- F. Bird Fair Committee – This most important committee shall be responsible for the procurement of the Fair venues, attracting of vendors, obtaining raffle items and door prizes, coordinating with the publicity and newsletter committees/chairs for promotion of the events, and with the Board to assure that all insurance and other legal matters are appropriately in place.
- G. Other – All other committees and appointments shall be formed and dissolved by the President and membership as needed.

## ARTICLE XI

### Audits.

An Audit Committee consisting of one Board member and one or more member(s) in good standing from among the general membership, shall be appointed at the end of the fiscal year by the President and Executive Board. This Committee shall be for the purpose of an annual audit and consist of people other than those with financial control or check writing authority in the Association. Such audit shall be performed in January on the records provided by the Treasurer of bank records received in the Association mailbox through the previous December.

## ARTICLE XII

### Inactivity.

Any member of the Executive Board who is absent from two (2) consecutive Board meetings, unless due to sickness or such other absence as should be deemed temporary and unavoidable by the majority of the Executive Board, shall automatically be relieved of his or her duties of office. The Executive Board, by majority vote, will appoint another qualified member who must be ratified or elected by a show of hands at the next General meeting to fill out the unexpired term vacated.

## ARTICLE XIII

### Parliamentary Authority.

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, current edition, shall govern the Oklahoma Avicultural Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws or any special rules this Association may adopt.

## ARTICLE XIV

### Amendments.

Any or all of the articles of these By-Laws may be amended. Amendments may be submitted at any Executive Board meeting, provided such amendments are in written form. All such amendments shall be read or given to the membership in written form at a regular meeting or electronic format prior to a general meeting, and voted on at the next regular meeting, providing notice of such action is given to all members in good standing. A two-thirds majority vote of the members in good standing who are present shall be required for adoption.

## ARTICLE XV

### Liabilities.

Nothing herein shall constitute members of the Association as partners for any purpose. No member, officer, or agent shall be liable for the acts or failure to act of any other member, officer, or agent of the Association. Nor shall any member, officer, or agent be liable for acts or failure to act under these By-Laws, excepting only acts or omissions arising out of that person's willful malfeasance.

## ARTICLE XVI

### Dissolution.

The Association may be dissolved by the vote of three-fourths majority of its active members at any regular meeting. In the event of dissolution, the property of the Association shall be distributed as follows:

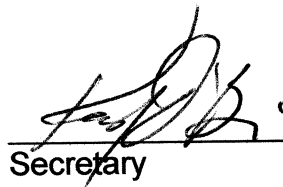
- A. Any and all debts shall be paid from funds in the treasury.
- B. Remaining monies shall be distributed to an avicultural research fund or a local, state, national, or international non-profit avicultural club as decided by the remaining members in good standing.

C. Any material possessions of the Association shall be donated to a comparable association or organization as decided by the remaining members in good standing.

Revised this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011.

Signing Officers represent the wishes of the majority of members in good standing who have accepted these revised By-Laws.

  
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President

  
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Secretary