

ASSOCIATION OF SPECIALIST BUDGERIGAR SOCIETIES

CONSTITUTION 2018

1. NAME

The Society, a non-profit organisation, formed on 1st January 2018 shall be called the **ASSOCIATION OF SPECIALIST BUDGERIGAR SOCIETIES** ('The Society'), incorporating the Crested BC, Rare Variety & Colour BS, Spangled BBA and Variegated BC and shall be affiliated to the Parent Body, **The Budgerigar Society**.

2. OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

- (a) To promote and encourage the breeding, development and exhibition of the specialist varieties under the wing of the parent societies.
- (b) To encourage the breeding and development of rare and diminishing varieties and colours deemed to be rare or diminishing in numbers.
- (c) To unite and foster friendship amongst all specialist enthusiast breeders.
- (d) To constantly strive to improve the standard and quality of the specialist varieties as listed above.
- (e) To promote the exhibition of the specialist varieties by means of Society Patronage.
- (f) To provide information to and liaise with any other interested bodies concerning the standard for the exhibition of the specialist varieties based upon our specialised knowledge and experience.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Membership of the Society shall consist of those persons who shall have completed an application form for membership and paid the annual subscription applicable to them and whose membership is accepted by the Management Committee of the Society.
- (b) The Management Committee reserves the right to refuse membership at its sole discretion without giving any reason for such refusal.
- (c) Benefits of membership for any year commence with the date the subscription is paid and can only be withdrawn for non-payment of subscriptions.
- (d) Life Members, Honorary Life Members and Honorary Life Vice Presidents of any of the above societies elected by 2017 and thereafter.

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The amount of subscription shall be as agreed at the ruling Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.) of the Society and be due on 1st January for the ensuing year. Members who have not paid by the 31st March shall be deemed to have lapsed from membership.

The types of subscription are as follows:-

- (i) Single membership.
- (ii) Partnership at same address.
- (iii) Partnership at different addresses.
- (iv) Senior Citizen (over the age of 65 years on 1st January).
- (v) Registered Disabled.
- (vi) Juniors (over 8 years and under 16 on 1st January and showing in Junior classes).
- (vii) Life Membership available at 20 times the current annual subscription.

5. MANAGEMENT OF THE SOCIETY

- (a) This shall be entrusted to a Management Committee elected for a 2 year period by ballot and consisting of the President, President Elect, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, General Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Patronage Secretary, Editor, Publicity Officer, Trophy Steward and a Committee of up to six members. Any of the aforementioned offices may be held jointly by two or more persons.
- (b) The Management Committee shall have the power to co-opt other individuals for special purposes.

6. COMMITTEE

- (a) Management Committee meetings will be called at the discretion of the Chairman and General

Secretary to discuss such business to ensure the smooth running of The Society's activities. The Chairman shall have a casting vote only at all meetings.

- (b) A quorum for all committee meetings shall consist of seven members including Officers (one person one vote).
- (c) The Chairman and General Secretary shall be ex-officio members of all sub-committees formed for any purpose in connection with The Society.

In addition to the powers specifically conferred upon them, the Management Committee shall have

- i) the control of the finances of the Society
- ii) the power to control and dismiss members
- iii) the control of all matters relating to the running and management of the Society
- iv) the power to co-opt any member onto the Committee to fill any post or vacancy deemed necessary.

The decision of the Management Committee relating to all matters of the Society outside of the Annual General Meeting shall be final.

The General Secretary shall record the minutes of all Society meetings held, which shall be available for inspection by any member, with the agreement of the Management Committee.

7. NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE

- (a) All members of the Management Committee shall be elected for a period of two years at a time. All new nominations for office or committee shall be sent to the General Secretary in writing (proposed and seconded by current paid up members in the ensuing year) on or before 31st March of each year. Should there be more than one nomination for an office or more than six nominations for the Committee, then a postal ballot will take place for that position/s. Ballot papers, with all relevant details, will be sent out to members at least four weeks prior to the A.G.M. Scrutineers for such ballots shall be the Parrot Society (P.S.).
- (b) If there are no new nominations for the Officers or the Committee, and the present holders are prepared to serve again, then there shall be no need for a ballot and all Officers and Committee members will be elected 'en bloc' at the A.G.M.
- (c) Any vacancies occurring during the period of two years may be filled by the Management Committee co-opting a member for the remainder of that period.

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- (a) The A.G.M. is the ultimate authority of this Society. The A.G.M. shall be held in May of each year, at a time and place to be agreed by the Committee. Announcement of the A.G.M. shall be made in The Society's publication and/or other journals of the fancy.
- (b) The purpose of the meeting will be:-
 - (i) To receive reports from Officers.
 - (ii) To receive the Balance Sheet and the financial report from the Treasurer.
 - (iii) To elect the Officers and the Committee.
 - (iv) To elect two Accounts Scrutineers who are not members of the Management Committee and Ballot Scrutineers for the ensuing year.
 - (v) To deal with any resolution of which proper notice shall have been given to the General Secretary by the 31st March. The complete text of all resolutions shall be published as an addendum to the A.G.M. agenda.
 - (vi) To consider any other relevant business notified to the Secretary at least 14 days before the meeting.
 - (vii) There will also be honorary appointments of Life Members, Life Vice-Presidents and Vice Presidents elected at the Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.) for reasons of giving outstanding service to the Society or varieties and colours on its list. These honorary appointments do not constitute part of the Management Committee.
- (c) Only fully paid-up members of The Society will be allowed to vote.
- (d) The Chairman shall have the casting vote.

9. AREA AND EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

- (a) An area members' meeting, strictly for social purposes, may be held in any area under the name of The Society providing that the General Secretary has been given fourteen days notice.

- (b) An Extraordinary General Meeting (E.G.M.) can be held either:
 - (i) by the Management Committee for any purpose
 - (ii) if a written request, signed by not less than 25 paid-up members, is sent, by recorded delivery, to the General Secretary stating the purpose for such a meeting. All members of the Management Committee must be informed before the meeting is arranged.
- (c) Announcement of such a meeting (date, time & venue) shall be made in the fancy press, The Society's publication, or by the most suitable means. Such meeting shall be held not less than one month nor more than two months from the written request.
- (d) Discussion at any E.G.M. must be strictly confined to the subjects specified in the notice.
- (e) The quorum of the E.G.M. shall be 25 paid-up members of which 15 must be signatories to the written request.
- (f) The Chairman shall have the casting vote.
- (g) It shall not be possible to requisition an Extraordinary General Meeting for the purpose of reversing or varying any decision made at the Annual General Meeting.
- (h) Once an Extraordinary General Meeting has made a decision upon the matters or purposes for which it was called, there shall be no further Extraordinary Meeting called nor resolution made to an Annual General Meeting to discuss them again until three years have elapsed.

10. ACCOUNTS

- (a) The Treasurer shall be responsible for all money of The Society and shall prepare an audited Balance Sheet to be presented at the A.G.M. for endorsement. A copy of the Balance Sheet shall be incorporated in the following issue of The Society's publication. A copy of the Balance Sheet and agenda for the A.G.M. shall be sent to all Officers and Committee members at least two weeks before the A.G.M.
- (b) The Society's financial year shall end on the last day of December.
- (c) All Society funds should be kept in a bank account at a bank or other financial organisation to be designated by the Management Committee.
- (d) The financial year of the Society shall be from 1st January up to and including 31st December.
- (e) The Management Committee shall have control of all funds of the Society and the authority to dispose and spend such funds in any manner as the Committee think fit in accordance with the objectives and rules of the Society.
- (f) Any funds raised by a Sub Committee set up under Rule 6 shall be the property of the Society and will be paid into the Society funds under control of the Treasurer.

11. FINANCES & BANKERS

- (a) The Society's Bankers shall be one of the main Banks or Building Societies at the Treasurer's discretion.
- (b) The General Secretary, Membership Secretary and Treasurer may each hold a petty cash account to a maximum of £20.00 to cover incidental expenses such as stationery and post. All such items of expenditure to be recorded in the financial books of the Society. All cheques, drafts, bills, etc. made out on behalf of The Society shall be signed by any two of the following; Treasurer, Chairman, Vice Chairman or the General Secretary to be valid.
- (c) The Chairman, General Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Patronage Secretary and Editor shall receive an annual Honorarium.

12. ALTERATIONS TO RULES

- (a) No General Rule shall be altered unless a two-third majority of the members present vote in favour of such alteration at the A.G.M. Notice of desire to alter any Rule must be given in writing to the General Secretary by the 31st March, proposed and seconded by current paid up members in the ensuing year.

13. SOCIETY'S PUBLICATION

- (a) The Society's publication (The Specialist Review) shall be produced at a frequency to be at the discretion of the Management Committee reflecting the objectives of the Society and distributed on behalf of the Management Committee.
- (b) The Editor shall have sole responsibility for the contents of the publication and the Editor's decision as to inclusion or exclusion of offered material shall be final except on Society business.

14. SHOW PATRONAGE

- (a) Patronage shall be awarded to societies at a given fee to be agreed at the A.G.M.

(b) Patronages awarded are as follows:-

- (i) Championship Affiliation Patronage.
- (ii) Promotional Affiliation Patronage.

Plus any other additional specials or Area Patronages to be agreed at the A.G.M.

- (c) All Patronage Applications to be received by the Patronage Secretary by 28th February in each year.
- (d) Any alterations or additions to Patronage Rules shall be presented in accordance with Rule 12.

15. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES PROTOCOL

The Society is committed to Equal Opportunities and opposes all discrimination, prejudice and any other form of injustice that are based on age, gender reassignment, mental or physical disability, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, racial or national background or origins, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation and as per current Equality Act.

It is the obligation of every member to ensure they actively support this Policy, and to ensure that no action of theirs can be reasonably construed as either discrimination or harassment.

16. DISCIPLINARY RULES

These shall be the same as The Budgerigar Society Rules.

17. OPTING OUT

Any of the major societies have the option to opt out within 5 years from joining giving reasonable account of reasons for pulling out and having the full support of its original committee at the time of joining. They will receive the same percentage of the Society's current finances that they invested at the time of joining.

18. WINDING UP

In the event, for whatever reason, of the Society ceasing to function in accordance with its objectives, it may only be disbanded by the wishes of a two third majority who attend an Extraordinary General Meeting convened specifically for such a purpose.

Any funds held by the Society at the time of such disbandment can be distributed to agreed named charities but first will be transferred to the Budgerigar Society with a request that they hold them for a period of up to five years, after which, if the society has not been re-formed they may be distributed to the named charities by them.