

ALAMEDA COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Article 1

Name: This association shall be known as The Alameda County Beekeepers Association.

Article 2

Purpose: The purpose of this association shall be to foster the education, advancement, and aid of its members and the community in matters relating to practical and scientific apiculture.

Article 3

Membership:

Section 1. Any person may apply for membership and become an active member by paying annual dues.

Section 2. No discrimination shall be shown towards individual members or applicants for membership because of race, religious faith, or political activities or beliefs.

Section 3. Misconduct by a member could result in loss of membership. Officers may appoint a committee of members to investigate and make a recommendation to the officers. Any action that would result in loss of membership shall be noticed to members in advance and voted on at the next meeting.

Section 4. Any person who has served the Alameda County Beekeepers Association or beekeeping in general, long and faithfully, may be honored with an honorary membership by a two-thirds vote of members present at a regularly scheduled meeting. The name of a candidate for honorary membership must be presented at a meeting prior to voting.

Article 4

Meetings: Regular meetings of the association shall be held each calendar month. Failure of the officers to call such meeting shall be sufficient reason for ten percent or more of the members in good standing to organize themselves as a committee and call a special meeting to carry out the provisions of the Constitution and by-laws.

Article 5

Officers:

Section 1. The elected officers of this association shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the members in good standing. A quorum of no less than ten percent of the association's membership must vote for the election of officers.

Section 3. The officers shall each be elected by secret ballot to serve for a period of 12 months from date of January to December of the calendar year until their successors are elected to office. They shall serve without compensation.

Section 4. The president shall preside at meetings, direct the meeting in an orderly manner, introduce speakers and guests, call for the reading of the minutes of previous meetings, present matters of business, read any resolution offered or motion, and submit them to the meeting for action.

Section 5. The vice-president shall act on the absence of the president and perform duties assigned by the president.

Section 6. The secretary shall perform duties normally associated with this position, such as recording the minutes of membership meetings, etc., or as otherwise directed by the president.

Section 7. The treasurer shall have charge of all funds, shall deposit them in the name of the association in banks, and have authority to sign checks for disbursement of the association funds when co-signed by the president or the vice-president. Any two officers may co-sign checks. Only duly elected officers of the association shall have signature access to the association's bank account(s). Upon election of new officers, the out-going and in-coming treasurers shall update bank records to comply with this section no later than the first business day of the month following the election. The treasurer shall maintain accurate records of association funds and render monthly reports of finances and cooperate with the secretary to ensure that all invoices and obligations of the association are paid.

Article 6

Dissolution: Upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

Article 7

Amendments: This constitution and by-laws may be amended by a majority of members present at a regular meeting, with a quorum of no less than ten percent of the qualified members present and voting, written notice having been read and filed with the secretary at a previous meeting.

BY-LAWS OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Meetings: With or without notice, members of the association shall meet regularly at least once monthly, at a time and place agreed, unless otherwise provided. The regular meeting is now designated as the second Tuesday of each calendar month at Studio One, 365 45th Street, Oakland, CA. The upcoming meeting date and time shall be posted on the Association website.

Election of Officers: At the regular meeting in November of each year, a nominating committee shall submit names for officers. Candidates may also be nominated from the floor. The officers will be elected by majority of the eligible members voting in person, electronically, or by mail. A committee of three, appointed by the President, shall verify the eligibility of members voting and count the ballots. Eligible members are those who are paid members as of October 15 of that year.

Reports: Minutes of previous meetings, committee reports, and announcements should be available prior to the next meeting. On the last regular meeting date of each calendar year, the retiring officers shall make a report of the essential matters in their office, with such recommendations, comments, etc. as they may desire.

Dues: Without special notice, each member shall pay annual dues to the treasurer, to be used exclusively for expenses of the association, all dues shall become payable as of January first (1st) of each year. Failure to pay dues shall suspend the member from voting or holding office.

Delinquency of dues exceeding three months shall result in forfeiture of membership benefits. Dues are to be set by a vote of members, to be decided at the December meeting. The amount of dues will be determined based on the financial needs of the association for the following year. Monies collected for dues will go into the general fund. Any monies received by the treasurer for a special fund shall be so noted in the treasurer's report. Honorary members shall be exempt from paying dues.

Committees: The president shall appoint the following standing committees: Audit, Fair or Exhibit(s), Nominating and Picnic.

Procedure: When not in conflict with the constitution and the by-laws, the procedures of all meetings of the association shall be guided and governed by 'Robert's Rules of Order', a copy of which shall be kept for ready reference by the secretary. The order of business may be altered by majority vote of members present.

Amended and Ratified by the Membership, September 2019.