

DELAWARE VALLEY ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

(As revised and amended May 16, 1985)

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

The name of this Association is the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club.

ARTICLE II

The purpose of this Club is the advancement and diffusion of ornithological knowledge.

ARTICLE III

The members of this Club shall be persons who are interested in ornithology considered in its widest sense. There may be four classes of members: Fellows, Active Members, Corresponding Members and Honorary Members.

ARTICLE IV

The officers of the Club shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, all elected at the annual meeting, and an Editor, appointed by the Council. The five officers, the last preceding President and six additional Fellows or Active Members elected at large shall constitute the Council of the Club. The Council shall be the governing body of the Club.

ARTICLE V

Amendments of this Constitution shall require the affirmative votes of at least two-thirds of the Fellows, Honorary Members and Active Members in good standing present at a regular stated meeting attended by a quorum. Such amendments shall not be valid unless they shall have been submitted at a preceding regular stated meeting attended by a quorum, and unless notice of the proposed amendments and of the meeting at which they are to be acted upon shall have been mailed to all Fellows, Honorary Members, and Active Members in good standing.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. MEMBERS

Sec. 1. Only Honorary Members, Fellows and Active Members in good standing shall be eligible to hold office, to be Councillors, and to vote. Fellows shall be chosen, in the manner provided in Article IV, Section 3, from among the Active Members of at least one year's standing as a recognition of the high quality of their ornithological work.

Sec. 2. Persons capable of furnishing desirable ornithological information to the Club, but unable, on account of place of residence, to attend meetings regularly, may be elected Corresponding Members. They shall have no voting privileges of membership. They may, upon request and the payment of any fees due, be transferred from the Corresponding class to the Active class. Fellows and Active members removing to a distance may, upon written request and approval of Council, be transferred to the Corresponding class.

Sec. 3. Ornithologists who have attained special prominence in their ornithological work may be chosen at the annual meeting to be Honorary Members of the Club.

Sec. 4. All Members in good standing shall be entitled to attend club meetings, to attend field trips and other activities of the Club, and upon payment of such fees, if any, as may be required by Council, to receive *Cassinia* and other club publications.

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

Sec. 1. The President shall preside at the meetings of the Club and of the Council. The President shall appoint all Committees and the persons to chair such Committees.

Sec. 2. The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in the President's absence and shall arrange the ornithological programs of the Club.

Sec. 3. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Club and of such deliberations of Council as Council may direct; shall notify members-elect of their election; shall acknowledge gifts and communications to the Club; shall duly notify all Fellows and Active Members in good standing of proposed amendments to the Constitution and these By-Laws; and shall submit an abstract of the Club's proceedings for *Cassinia* at an appropriate pre-publication date.

Sec. 4. The Treasurer shall collect all dues from members and shall have charge of all moneys belonging to the Club, save for the Endowment Fund assets held as set forth in Article VIII. No disbursements shall be made by the Treasurer unless approved by the Council. At the annual meeting of the Club, the Treasurer shall present a report for audit. The Treasurer shall be bonded.

Sec. 5. The Editor, with the cooperation of the Publication Committee, shall edit and superintend the publication of such ornithological matter as Council may authorize. The Editor shall also, with the cooperation of the Committee of Publication and the Treasurer, distribute Club publications to members, subscribers and exchanges entitled to receive them. The Editor shall be appointed by Council to serve at its pleasure.

Sec. 6. The Council shall consist of the elected officers and members-at-large of Council, the Editor (who may, but need not, be chosen from the members-at-large of Council) and the last preceding President for one year following the end of service as President. The Council shall transact all business of the Club, except the elections of members and officers.

ARTICLE IV. ELECTIONS AND EXPULSIONS

Sec. 1. All elections of officers and councillors shall be by written ballot unless waived by two-thirds of the Fellows and Active Members in good standing present at the balloting. Balloting shall be conducted separately in the following order: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Councillors. A person may be nominated for more than one office but may not be elected to more than one office. Officers shall be elected for one-year terms and Councillors shall be elected for three-year terms. The President may serve not more than two consecutive terms in that office. Other officers may serve any number of terms in their office.

Sec. 2. Nominations to Active Membership shall be made in writing by two Fellows or Active Members in good standing and shall state the qualifications and mailing address of their candidates, the genuineness of their interest in ornithology and the probability of active participation in the Club. The name of a candidate for membership shall be announced at least one meeting prior to Election. The affirmative votes of at least two-thirds of Council, as well as of the Fellows, Honorary Members and Active Members in good standing present at the balloting, shall be necessary for the election of an Active Member.

Sec. 3. Nominations for Fellows, Corresponding Members and Honorary Members shall be made by the concurrence of at least two-thirds of the members of Council present at a Council meeting attended by a quorum and shall be announced at the first December meeting. The election of Fellows, Corresponding Members and Honorary Members shall take place at the annual meeting. The affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the Fellows, Honorary Members and Active Members in good standing present at the balloting shall be necessary for election.

Sec. 4. Elections of officers and members-at-large of Council shall take place at the Annual Meeting of the Club. The Nominating Committee shall collect any nominations made for officers and councillors to be elected. The nominations shall be made orally from the floor and shall be confirmed in writing. Nominations may be made at the first and second regular meetings in December. Unless at least five Fellows, Honorary Members, or Active Members in good standing join in a nomination, the nomination shall not be valid. The Nominating Committee shall make its nominations for the officers and Councillors-at-large at the first regular December meeting. The Nominating Committee shall contact the nominees to obtain their acceptance and prepare the ballot to be presented at the Annual Meeting. The affirmative vote of a majority of the Fellows, Honorary Members and Active Members in good standing present shall be necessary for election. If no candidate obtains a majority on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken in which only the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes on the first ballot shall be eligible to participate.

Sec. 5. The terms of Councillors shall be such that the terms of two Councillors expire at each Annual Meeting.

Sec. 6. If a vacancy takes place in an elected position the President shall appoint a Fellow or Active Member to fill the unexpired term.

Sec. 7. Members may be expelled from the Club on satisfactory evidence that they are improper persons to be connected therewith. Such member shall have the privilege of a hearing and representation before action is taken. Such expulsion to be valid shall require a vote in favor of expulsion of at least two-thirds of the Fellows and Active Members in good standing present at a regular stated meeting attended by a quorum. Not less than one month's notice of the proposed action shall be given to all Fellows and Active Members in good standing and to the member accused.

ARTICLE V. FEES AND ASSESSMENTS

Sec. 1. The annual membership fee for Fellows and Active Members shall be determined by Council. The fee shall be due and payable at the Annual Meeting. Membership fees for Active Members elected during the first six months of the calendar year are payable at the time of their entrance into Active Membership. Active Members elected during the last six months of the calendar year shall not be liable for the annual membership fee for the calendar year in which they are elected. No member shall be liable for any annual membership fee due for any calendar year during which the member is in active military service for the United States of America.

Sec. 2. Corresponding and Honorary Members shall not be subject to dues of any kind.

Sec. 3. The names of Fellows and Active Members two years in arrears for dues shall be dropped from membership provided that they have been twice notified in writing of their indebtedness by the Treasurer and their attention has been called to this By-Law.

Sec. 4. Any member may become a Life Member, with full membership privileges, exempt from further dues, by making a payment into the D.V.O.C. Endowment Fund of a sum to be determined from time to time by Council.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

Sec. 1. The regular meetings of the Club shall be held at 8:00 P.M. on the first and third Thursdays in each month from October to May, inclusive, at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, or at such other places or times selected by Council, except when January 1 falls on a Thursday the regular stated meetings in that month shall be on the second and fourth Thursdays, and except when, at the discretion of Council, the last meeting in May shall be held on the fourth Thursday of that month. The Annual Meeting of the Club shall be the first meeting of January.

Sec. 2. Council shall meet immediately preceding the regular stated meetings of the Club from October through May. Six members of Council shall constitute a quorum. All matters shall be decided by a majority vote of the members present at a meeting attended by a quorum except those matters which by other parts of these By-Laws require a larger vote.

Sec. 3. Special meetings of the Club or Council may be called by the President with the approval of three Fellows or Active Members in good standing.

Sec. 4. Thirty-five Fellows and Active Members in good standing or one-half or the total number of Fellows and Active Members in good standing, whichever is less, shall constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Club.

Sec. 5. The order of business at the regular stated meetings shall be as follows:

- Minutes of last meeting
- Reports of Council
- Nomination of Officers and Members
- Election
- Reports of Committees and Announcements
- Other Communications
- General Field Notes (30 minutes)
- Ornithological Program
- Adjournment

ARTICLE VII. WITMER STONE AWARD

An award, to be known as the Witmer Stone Award for Ornithological Research, may be awarded annually at the discretion of the Council to that member of the Club who submits the best paper, not published prior to the last award of the Witmer Stone Award, which embodies the results of ornithological research not undertaken in the course of professional duties. Papers shall be submitted to the Secretary not later than the first meeting in November. Any award shall be announced and presented at the annual meeting of the Club. An author shall have the right to resubmit for reconsideration in any later year a paper not receiving the award.

ARTICLE VIII. ENDOWMENT FUND

Sec. 1. The proper care of D.V.O.C. Endowment Fund shall be provided for by a Board of Trustees. This Board shall consist of three members appointed by the President; one member for one year, one member for two years, and one member for three years. At the expiration of each respective term, a member shall be appointed for three years. Any vacancy on the board occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise shall be filled by appointment by the President for the unexpired term. The annual income from the Endowment Fund shall be deposited with the Treasurer for current Club expense.

Sec. 2. Any Trustees having signatory power over any bank account containing Endowment Fund monies shall be bonded.

ARTICLE IX. JULIAN K. POTTER AWARD

The Julian K. Potter Award may be presented annually to that member of the Club who has made an outstanding contribution to field ornithology. The award will be generally in the form of a suitable book, inscribed as follows: "The Julian K. Potter Award for outstanding contribution to field ornithology for the year awarded to ." The Award will be underwritten by the interest earned from the special fund created by Mrs. Julian K. Potter in her husband's memory and deposited with the Treasurer of the Club. The presentation of the Award will be made at the annual meeting. The President may appoint a committee to consider and recommend one or more candidates for selection by Council.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these By-Laws shall require the affirmative votes of at least two-thirds of the Fellows, Honorary Members and Active Members in good standing present at a regular stated meeting attended by a quorum. Such amendments shall not be valid unless they shall have been submitted at a preceding regular stated meeting attended by a quorum, and unless notice of the proposed amendments and of the meeting at which they are to be acted upon shall have been mailed to all Fellows, Honorary Members and Active Members in good standing.