

BYLAWS OF THE RALEIGH-DURHAM CAGED BIRD SOCIETY

ARTICLE I. NAME. ADDRESS. AND TYPE OF ORGANIZATION.

The name of this organization shall be the Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society, herein referred to as RDCBS. The official mailing address of the RDCBS is P.O. Box 32291, Raleigh, NC 27622. The RDCBS is to be a non-profit organization under the laws of the State of North Carolina.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE.

1. To promote interest in the field of aviculture, i.e. the breeding and care of caged birds.
2. To educate RDCBS members and the community to the needs, proper care, record keeping, and permanent identification of caged birds.
3. To support avian research and conservation projects devoted to increasing knowledge of nutritional and reproductive needs of aviary birds and for diagnosis and treatment of their diseases.
4. To educate RDCBS members and the community about, and to support public efforts regarding, conservation issues pertaining to avian species in their native habitats.
5. To support and encourage domestic breeding of avian species.
6. To support local, state, national, and international organizations and events that are consistent with the RDCBS' purposes as defined above.
7. RDCBS will not support or endorse any specific commercial activities or services. No organization or individual is permitted to claim the endorsement of the RDCBS, unless prior approval is granted by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.
8. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of its members, directors, officers, or other persons except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the tax-exempt purposes of the organization.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP.

1. The classes of membership are as follows: single, family, senior citizen, honorary and complimentary. Family memberships shall consist of any two adults and all minor children living in the same household. Senior citizen (65 years or older), honorary and complimentary memberships are free. The membership list will be maintained at the direction of the Board of Directors.
2. Dues are set by the Board of Directors. Dues payments are for a 12 month period, beginning on the date of payment. Dues payment can be made via cash, check, or electronically.
3. Any person who wishes to attend RDCBS meetings, after having visited no more than two meetings in a 12 month period, must apply for membership unless special conditions exist and are approved by the board.
4. Members who have not renewed their annual membership will be dropped from the membership list after payment is due.
5. In the event that a member resigns from the RDCBS, no portion of the annual dues payment is refundable.
6. Honorary and complimentary memberships shall be granted by a two-thirds

vote of the Board of Directors.

7. Any member who is accused in writing of actions which are contrary to the express purposes of the RDCBS shall have the accusation investigated by the Board of Directors within 60 days of receiving said accusation. If the accusation is determined to be valid, the member may be removed from membership, without refund of dues, by a two-thirds ballot of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV. VOTING.

1. All adult members shall have one vote.

2. Election of Officers, Board Members and designation of recipients of grant funding shall be by written ballot. At least two weeks prior to the meeting at which voting occurs, Nominees for elective Office, ~~or~~ Board Membership, and abstracts of each application for grant funding shall be provided to each member via website posting and email, or via U.S. Mail upon request to the club secretary.

3. A quorum shall constitute ten percent or more members.

4. A member may vote in absentia by obtaining an absentee ballot prior to the meeting. Absentee ballots are obtained by request to the President.

5. Motions are passed and officers are elected by a simple majority of votes cast.

ARTICLE V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of nine (9) members, as follows: Four (4) directly-elected members, the immediate past-President, the current President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary.

2. The term of each Board member shall be as follows: The directly elected members shall serve four (4) year terms, staggered so that no more than one (1) directly-elected position is open for election in a single calendar year.

3. The immediate past-President shall serve until replaced by the current President.

4. The current President shall serve until replaced in Office and shall then serve as immediate past-President. In the event that the immediate Past-President is no longer a member of the RDCBS or declines participation on the Board, this position shall remain vacant.

5. The Chairman of the Board shall be elected annually by the Board and must be one of its 4 directly-elected members.

6. The Board oversees all affairs, business, and assets of the RDCBS.

7. Board Members must be present at Board Meetings in order to vote on club business.

8. In the event that a member resigns from the Board, the vacancy will be filled by a simple majority vote of the remaining Board members. The appointment will be for the duration of the unexpired term of the position vacated. The Board must fill the vacancy within 60 days.

9. The Board of Directors is responsible for auditing of the records of the Treasurer and shall attest to their accuracy not less than annually, or upon resignation of the Treasurer.

10. No Board meetings will be held without notification of all Board members at least 5 days in advance.

11. If an officer is found to be unable to perform his duties, the Board shall have the authority to remove that person from office by a two-thirds vote.

12. To remain on the Board of Directors or as an elected Officer, a member must attend 75% of regularly scheduled RDCBS general monthly meetings and 75% of regular and special meetings of the Board.

ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICE.

PRESIDENT:

1. Shall preside over RDCBS meetings.
2. Shall appoint all committees and chairmen as approved by the Board.
3. Shall serve as a member of the Board.
4. Shall coordinate the nomination and election of officers as detailed in Article VIII.
5. Shall see that all members receive ballots.

VICE-PRESIDENT:

1. Shall perform the duties of the President in his or her absence.
2. Shall serve as a member of the Board.

SECRETARY:

1. Shall keep the minutes of the RDCBS board meetings, shall read the minutes of each board meeting at the following RDCBS board meeting, and shall provide a written copy of these minutes to the newsletter editor and webmaster, for publication to the membership.
2. Shall conduct all correspondence of the organization, including issuing notice to each member of special meetings and events held by the RDCBS.

TREASURER:

1. Shall be responsible for all funds of the Society.
2. Shall have any and all checks exceeding \$500.00 approved by a designated member of the Board.
3. Must keep accurate records of all receipts and disbursements including: cash tendered, to or from whom; the date and items purchased.
4. Shall present a financial report at regularly scheduled RDCBS board meetings.
5. Shall provide a copy of the financial report to the Secretary for inclusion in the Board Meeting minutes.
6. Shall schedule a meeting with the Board of Directors as soon as mutually convenient, and not later than February 1 of the year following the end of his or her term of office. The purpose of this meeting will be to establish the accuracy of the financial records for the preceding fiscal year. Draft copies of these records must be submitted to the Board of Directors for its Internal Audit not later than two weeks before the scheduled meeting with the Board. The fiscal year begins January 1 and ends December 31 and thereby coincides with the term of office.
7. Shall prepare and submit all forms required by North Carolina and Federal agencies regarding the financial affairs of the RDCBS. A Treasurer whose term expires on December 31 shall remain responsible for assisting the new Treasurer in fulfilling these obligations, inasmuch as such reports depend on financial records for the preceding fiscal year during which he or she held the office.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

1. Shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.
2. Shall oversee the preparation and publication the RDCBS Newsletter, which

shall be published not less than 6 times per calendar year.

3. Shall be responsible for the content and quality of the Newsletter. Each Newsletter shall contain, at a minimum, the following:

A. A list of the current board-of-directors, officers, and committee appointees of the RDCBS.

B. Description and dates of upcoming events of interest to the members of the RDCBS.

C. Other material of interest to the members of the RDCBS. Such may include, but is not limited to, news articles, educational material regarding the care or pet qualities of bird species, or RDCBS member profiles.

The newsletter may also contain paid advertisements.

The newsletter must not contain any material, including paid advertising, the content of which is inconsistent with the purposes of the RDCBS, as defined in Article II of these Bylaws.

INTERNAL AUDITOR:

1. Shall be one of the Board of Directors or a designated member.

2. Shall examine the records of the Treasurer and shall attest to their accuracy not later than February 1st of each year.

EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR:

1. Shall be appointed by the Board.

2. Shall organize and oversee educational programs for presentations at each regular meeting of the RDCBS.

WEBMASTER/MEDIA DIRECTOR

1. Will create and/or maintain the website of the club.

2. The required content of the web site will be at the direction of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII. TERMS OF OFFICE.

1. No person may hold more than one concurrent elective office.

2. The term of all elective offices with the exception of the Directly Elected Board Members, shall be one year, beginning on January 1 and terminating on December 31.

3. A person may not serve as President for more than two consecutive terms.

4. If the office of President becomes vacant during the elected term, this office shall be filled by the Vice-President for the remainder of the term. If any other

office becomes vacant, the remainder of the term will be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

1. The President shall accept from the general membership, nominations for each office. All nominations must be submitted no later than the close of the October General meeting. Nominees must be current in their membership as of the day of nomination.

2. The President shall submit to the Board of Directors, the list of nominees for each office at the end of the October General meeting.

3. The annual election of officers shall be conducted at the November General meeting.

4. The President shall notify the members of the results of balloting and shall notify candidates of their election to office.

5. Only those members with a membership current as of the day of the election are eligible to vote in the general election.

ARTICLE IX. MEETINGS.

A meeting of the general membership shall be held monthly. Each monthly RDCBS meeting shall include a brief business meeting which shall include the Secretary's report, Treasurer's report, pertinent committee reports and discussion of past and upcoming events sponsored by or of general interest to the RDCBS.

ARTICLE X. AFFILIATION.

RDCBS may be affiliated with any state, national, or international organization which would enhance the goals and purposes of RDCBS as stated in Article II. All such affiliations shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS.

Amendments may be proposed by either the Board of Directors or General Membership. Ratification shall require both a two thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors and a two-thirds majority of votes cast by the General Members, excluding members of the Board.

ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION.

Upon the dissolution of the organization assets shall be distributed to the North Carolina State University, College of Veterinary Medicine, for support of its avian research program, if it qualifies under section 501(c)(3) at the time of dissolution. Otherwise, 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. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE XIII. MISCELLANEOUS.

1. All payments to the RDCBS shall be made payable to the "Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society".
2. In the event a situation arises that is not expressly covered by these bylaws, we will to defer to NC General Statute Chapter 55A, aka "North Carolina Non Profit Corporation Act".
3. Any person wishing to discuss a concern regarding policies or procedures of the RDCBS, shall first present such concerns in writing to a member of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consider this concern and shall notify the person presenting said concern, and the general membership if appropriate, of any decision made by the Board.

These Bylaws, approved by the present Board of Directors and of the General Members of the Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society, on November 18, 2012 replace all Bylaws which have been in effect previously.