

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS  
OF  
THE LOW COUNTRY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 1  
(NAME)

SECTION 1 - NAME: The name of this organization shall be "The Low Country Beekeepers Association."

ARTICLE 2  
(OBJECTIVES)

SECTION 2 - OBJECTIVES: The objective of this nonprofit organization shall be to encourage better methods among beekeepers of the state and nation, to promote cooperation, to reach a common understanding regarding our problems and their solution, to maintain friendly and helpful relations with those forces which are working to better the beekeeping industry, to develop markets for beekeeping products, to foster closer cooperation among members of the Association, and to do such things as will tend to improve purposes exclusively for its members and the general public relating to honey bees and the beekeeping industry.

ARTICLE 3  
(MEMBERSHIP)

SECTION 1- MEMBERS: Anyone interested in beekeeping and the beekeeping industry may join the Association upon payment of the regular annual dues. Membership is on an individual basis. The right to vote shall be limited to members.

SECTION 2 - JR. MEMBERSHIP: Non-voting Jr. membership shall be free to all interested youths under eighteen (18) years of age or full-time students under twenty six (26) years of age.

SECTION 3 - LIFE MEMBERSHIP: A fully paid Life Membership in the Association may be conferred upon a member who has contributed in some outstanding way to the Association's aims and ideals and for meritorious service to the Association, by a majority vote of the members present at any regular business meeting.

SECTION 4 - HONORARY MEMBERSHIP: Honorary membership in the Association may be bestowed to a person who is seventy years old and has been a member in good standing for five (5) years. This membership may be granted by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting. An honorary membership is not liable for dues.

## ARTICLE 4 (OFFICERS)

**SECTION 1 - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:** The officers of the Association shall be: President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, who shall serve for a two (2) year term. The Association members shall elect by a majority vote of the members present and voting at the November meeting the officers, and three (3) Directors; one to serve one (1) year, one to serve two (2) years, and one to serve three (3) years. At each succeeding November meeting, one Director will be elected to serve for a three-year term. A Director may serve two (2) successive terms and then be reelected after a one (1) year absence from the Board. We will remain at four (4) officers until membership allow US to follow this procedure.

**SECTION 2 - ELECTIONS:** The election of Directors and Officers shall be at the November meeting.

## ARTICLE 5 (DUTIES OF OFFICERS)

**SECTION 1 - PRESIDENT:** The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association using regular parliamentary usage and Roberts Rules of Order. This officer shall appoint such special committees as is deemed necessary, fill vacancies of any officers, and perform such other duties as the Association may direct. The President will be authorized to make deposits, disburse all monies, should the Secretary-Treasurer be unable to perform those duties.

**SECTION 2 - VICE-PRESIDENT:** It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to perform the duties of the President in his or her absence, or upon the President's request. If the Vice-President is unable to perform this duty in the absence of the President, then the Vice-President may appoint any member to act in his/her stead with the consent of the majority of the Directors.

**SECTION 3 - TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall collect the annual dues from the members, issue membership cards and notify all members after the January meeting who are delinquent in payment of dues. This officer shall be custodian of all monies received by the Association and keep full and accurate records showing the receipts and disbursements of all monies. The Treasurer shall close the Association's books prior to each January meeting and make a complete report on the membership and financial standings of the Association at that time. Also, he/she shall make an annual financial report at the end of the accounting period of December 31 of each year and file the necessary information returns to the Internal Revenue Service. He/she will see that the President is also authorized to make deposits, disburse all monies, if the Treasurer is unable to perform these duties. He/she shall present all records and books to the Directors for examination and auditing after November 30. After auditing is complete and a report is made at the January meeting, all monies and books are to be

turned over to the succeeding treasurer at said meeting. He/She shall prepare a membership list showing paid up and delinquent or inactive members for review by the directors.

**SECTION 4- SECRETARY:** The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the minutes and all transactions of the Association. He/she shall, at the end of his or her term, have all records and minutes and shall deliver them to his/her successor, including papers, books and all other property of the Association which may be in his or her possession.

**SECTION 5 - EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:** The Executive Secretary, when appointed or elected, shall promote, publicize and coordinate in the management of the activities and accomplishments of the Association. This officer shall serve as an official liaison between the Association and those other agencies, including all levels of government agencies, business concerns, and the various associations and groups, whose actions or interests may coincide with the interests and activities of the Association.

**SECTION 6 - PROGRAM CHAIRMAN:** The Program Chairman, when appointed or elected, will make the necessary arrangements for programs and secure speakers for the same. When directed by the Association, he/she will secure a meeting place and make necessary arrangements for meetings.

**SECTION 7 - DIRECTORS:** The three elected Directors, when elected, shall examine and audit the books of the Treasurer, no later than January 1 of each year and report at the January meeting and report their findings and make recommendations to the members attending the meeting. Should they be unable to act and serve in their stead, the President of the Association shall appoint temporary members to serve in their absence.

#### ARTICLE 6 (DUES)

**SECTION 1 - DUES:** The amount of annual dues shall be determined by recommendation of the Executive Committee and approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the membership present at a regular meeting. Dues shall be payable on an annual or 12 month basis beginning in the month received by the Treasurer. All dues and voting privileges expire on the last day of the twelfth month. Any member of the Association who has not paid dues by the expiration time will be dropped from the roll of membership. A person, who has been dropped from the roll of membership for nonpayment of dues, may be restored to active membership by paying the required annual dues from their previous expiration month.

#### ARTICLE 7 (MEETINGS)

SECTION 1 - MEETINGS: There shall be a minimum of two regular meetings held annually, meeting monthly until a majority of members vote otherwise. Notice of each meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary to each member of the Association or otherwise adequately advertised at least two (2) weeks before the meeting. The time and place for each meeting shall be decided on by a majority vote of the members of the Executive Committee at its meeting. If this is not possible, the Officers will make the necessary arrangements for said meeting.

ARTICLE 8  
(QUORUM)

SECTION 1 - QUORUM: Four (4) voting members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular meeting.

ARTICLE 10  
(AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS)

SECTION 1 - AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS: The Lowcountry Beekeepers Association *may* associate itself and determine its own basis of support for the current year and for so long as is desirable, with *any* other state or National Beekeeping Association by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members attending a regular meeting.

SECTION 2 - COUNTY OR REGIONAL BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION: All county and/or Regional Beekeepers Associations or Beekeepers Clubs are encouraged and invited to associate themselves to the South Carolina Beekeepers Association.

ARTICLE 11  
(DISSOLUTION)

SECTION 1 - DISSOLUTION: Should this Association undergo dissolution; its assets will be distributed to one or more charitable organizations.

ARTICLE 12  
(AMENDMENTS)

SECTION 1 - AMENDMENTS: Any article or any section of any article of the Constitution and By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all members present providing proposed amendments have been presented to the Executive Committee for their recommendation, and have been presented in writing to the entire membership at least Fourteen (14) days before the meeting.

ARTICLE 13

(ADOPTIONS / REVISIONS)

SECTION 1 - ADOPTION: upon acceptance by vote of the Association, this Constitution and By-Laws supersedes all previous Constitution and By-Laws. This Constitution and By-Laws was read and adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all members present at a regular business meeting held at Summerville, South Carolina on April 19, 1990, unanimously.

SECTION 2- REVISIONS:

- (A) This Constitution and By-Laws has been revised November 18, 1999 by a two thirds majority vote of all members present at the regular business meeting held at Cottageville, SC.
- (B) This Constitution and By-Laws has been revised December 19, 2019 by a two thirds majority vote of all members present at the regular business meeting held at Cottageville, SC.