

# **THE WAKE COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

## **ARTICLE 1. NAME**

The name of this organization shall be “The Wake County Beekeepers Association, Inc.”

## **ARTICLE 2. OBJECTIVES**

The objective of this non-profit organization shall be to promote beekeeping as a hobby or as a livelihood, and to stimulate the interest of the general public in the advantages and benefits of beekeeping.

This organization shall encourage study and research in the apiarian art with an eye toward better methodology, increased production, and improved marketing.

## **ARTICLE 3. MEMBERS**

Anyone interested in beekeeping and the beekeeping industry may join the Association upon payment of the regular annual dues. All active members shall be eligible to vote. Members who are seventy years old who have been paying members for the past two years can elect to become permanent members. Permanent members will be considered voting members and will not be required to pay dues for as long as they desire to remain members.

## **ARTICLE 4. DUES**

The annual dues shall be \$20.00 per year and shall be due on January 1 of each year. Anyone living permanently in the same dwelling may pay \$30 per year under a family/household membership option. Any member of the Association who does not pay dues by February 1 shall be dropped from the membership roll. A person may be restored to active membership by paying the current year’s dues. Payment of dues at the regular rate on or after September 1 is considered payment for the remainder of that year and all of the following calendar year. Dues reflected in this Article are inclusive of any costs associated with payment processing.

## **ARTICLE 5. MEETINGS**

There shall be twelve regular meetings a year, held monthly. Notice of each meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary to each member of the Association or otherwise adequately advertised. Any change in the time and place of these meetings shall be decided on by a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting. If this is not possible, the Executive Committee may direct the Program Chair to make the necessary arrangements for changing said meeting. One of the regular monthly meetings shall serve as the annual business meeting. Officers shall report to the membership on such items as finance, programs, membership, and special activities.

## ARTICLE 6. OFFICERS

The Officers of the Association shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, Program Chair, and three Directors. (For ease in reading, masculine pronouns have been used in reference to Officers. However, no prejudice is intended. He/She, Him/Her, His/Hers are to be used as applicable.)

The Association shall elect the first year, by a majority vote, three Directors – one to serve one year, one to serve two years, and one to serve three years. At each succeeding election of officers, one Director shall be elected by a majority vote to serve for three years.

Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present at the October regular meeting and hold office from January through December of the next year or longer until their successors are elected. In the case of a vacancy, the President may appoint a member to serve during the remainder of the term. No person shall be elected for any office without his/her consent.

## ARTICLE 7. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

The PRESIDENT shall preside at all meetings of the Association using regular parliamentary procedures and Roberts' Rules of Order. He/She shall appoint special committees as he/she deems necessary, fill vacancies in any office, and perform such other duties as the Association may direct. He/She will be authorized to make deposits and to disperse all monies should the Treasurer be unable to perform his/her duties.

The VICE-PRESIDENT shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence or at his/her request. If the Vice-President is unable to perform this duty in the absence of the President, he/she may appoint any member to act in his/her stead.

The SECRETARY shall keep an accurate record of the minutes and transactions of the Association.

He/She shall notify the members and general public of each regular monthly meeting by written notice and/or appropriate news media releases. He/She shall also see that any other news item or information beneficial and advantageous to the members of the Association and the general public gets distributed.

He/She shall conduct such correspondence and transact such other business as the Association may deem necessary; including assisting in the collection of dues, issuing membership cards, and assisting with membership renewal notification.

At the end of his/her term in office he/she shall deliver to his/her successor all papers and other property of the Association that may be in his/her possession.

The TREASURER shall be custodian of all monies received by the Association and keep full and accurate records showing the receipts and disbursements of all monies. He/She shall collect the annual dues from the members, see that all members are notified when it is time to renew their membership, and transact such other business as the Association may direct.

He/She shall close his/her books each year as of December 31, file the necessary information returns to the Internal Revenue Service, and present his/her records and books for examination and auditing at any time during the year when requested by the Directors. At the annual business meeting, he/she shall make a complete report on the Association's membership and financial standing.

He/She shall establish a budget each calendar year, review it and have it approved by the executive committee by December of that year. The budget is then presented to the membership by January of each year for review and approval.

He/She shall see that the President is authorized to make deposits and disburse all monies in the event that he/she, the Treasurer, is unable to perform his/her duties.

At the end of his/her term in office he/she shall deliver to his/her successor all financial records, monies, and other property of the Association that may be in his/her possession.

The SERGEANT-AT-ARMS shall be responsible for securing meeting space for the regular monthly meetings and other events as assigned, ensure that the meeting place is set up, keep order during meetings and work with others as necessary during the meeting to ensure the smooth operation of Association meetings.

The PROGRAM CHAIR shall be responsible for developing a program calendar for the Association, securing speakers for monthly meetings and other events as assigned, and work with others as necessary during the meeting to ensure the smooth operation of Association meetings. .

The DIRECTORS shall examine and audit the books of the Treasurer before the annual business meeting. They shall report their findings and make recommendations to the members attending that meeting.

Should a Director be unable to attend or perform his/her duty, he/she may appoint another member of the Association to act in his/her stead; otherwise the President may appoint someone to serve in his/her absence.

#### ARTICLE 8. COMMITTEES

The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE shall consist of all the elected officers of the Association (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, Program Chair and the three Directors) and the immediate past President, who shall be an ex-officio member. The Executive Committee shall have authority to transact business on behalf of the Association when it is not in session.

The AUDITING COMMITTEE shall consist of the three elected Directors, whose duty will be to examine and audit the books of the Treasurer and to make recommendations on their findings at the annual business meeting.

The NOMINATING COMMITTEE shall consist of three members, appointed at the July meeting by the President, whose duty will be to nominate and present a slate of officers at the September regular meeting for election at the October regular meeting. Other names may be submitted from the membership at large at the time of the election of officers.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES, shall consist of three members, shall be appointed by the President and shall serve as directed by the President.

#### ARTICLE 9. QUORUM

Ten voting members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular meeting. Four shall constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE 10. AMENDMENTS

Any article, or section of any article, of The Wake County Beekeepers Association's Constitution and By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members

present, providing the proposed amendments have been presented to the Executive Committee for their recommendation and have been presented in writing to the entire membership at least one month before any vote is taken.

#### ARTICLE 11. DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the association, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the association, dispose of all of the assets of the association exclusively for the purposes of the association to the North Carolina State Beekeepers Association, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, or to such other organization(s) organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, scientific or literary purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code as the Board of Directors shall determine, or to federal, state, or local governments to be used exclusively for public purposes. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Superior Court of Wake County, North Carolina, exclusively for charitable, educational or scientific purposes as the court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes or to state or local governments for public purposes.

#### ARTICLE 12. REPEALING CLAUSE

Upon acceptance by vote of the members of the Association, this Constitution and By-Laws supersedes all previous Constitution and By-Laws.

APPROVED JAN. 17. 1977.  
AMENDED SPRING, 1987.  
AMENDED NOVEMBER, 2004.  
AMENDED FEBRUARY 2007.  
AMENDED JULY 2009.  
AMENDED MARCH 2013.  
AMENDED NOVEMBER 2019.  
AMENDED DECEMBER 2022.  
AMENDED MAY 2023.  
AMENDED NOVEMBER 2023.