

AMERICAN COCKATIEL SOCIETY, INC. BY-LAWS
Revised August 27th, 2015

These by-laws, having been duly approved and adopted do so remain in effect until duly changed or amended as provided under Article X.

Article 1

Section 1, Name:

The name of this organization shall be *The American Cockatiel Society, Inc.* This society is to be a not-for-profit organization under the laws of the state of Texas.

Section 2, Office:

The Board of Directors shall elect the principle office and resident agent by a simple majority vote. A simple majority vote consists of one vote more than half the votes cast.

Article II

Section 1, Purpose:

1. To encourage an interest and understanding of the Cockatiel as a pet or exhibition bird;
2. To establish an official standard of perfection for judging and breeding the ideal Cockatiel;
3. To establish a panel of qualified judges so that judging will be of uniform quality, governed by the Standard of Perfection;
4. To encourage improvement of the Cockatiel through closed banding, selective Breeding and record keeping;
5. To increase interest in mutations through studies pertaining to the genetics of the Cockatiel;
6. To exchange ideas and inform all members throughout the world, through the mediums of our publication, *The American Cockatiel Society Magazine*, and the official American Cockatiel Society website;
7. To support research pertaining to the nutrition and diseases of cockatiels;
8. To have and support an American Cockatiel Society Specialty Show each year.

Article III

Section 1, Dues:

The Board of Directors sets dues.

Section 2, Memberships:

1. Membership renewal will be on an annual basis.
2. A single membership is one person.

3. A dual membership is two people residing at the same address.
4. One magazine will be sent to a membership, whether single or double.
5. Persons having not paid their dues by the end of the month following their renewal date will be dropped from membership.
6. Any person who has at any time been convicted in a court of law of having in his/her possession or handling of protected or smuggled birds shall not be eligible to become a member of this Society. If he/she is already a member, his/her membership may be canceled by a vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the entire Board of Directors.
7. A member may not conduct themselves in a manner which is injurious to this society or to its purpose. Such conduct may subject a member to expulsion from the society by a vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the entire Board of Directors. A member, once expelled, forfeits all future rights to membership in the society.

Article IV

Section 1, Voting Privileges:

1. Single memberships have one vote.
2. Dual memberships have two votes.
3. Honorary memberships have the right to one vote.
4. A proposed agenda of the business to be discussed at the annual business meeting will be published prior to the meeting. On issues requiring membership vote, a ballot will be sent by the secretary, to the editor to be published in the *ACS Magazine* to each member. Ballots are to be returned to the Secretary within 30 days of the original mailing date.

Section 2, Voting Procedures

1. A notice inviting nominations will be published in the *ACS Magazine*, beginning with the first issue of the year of elections, for all issues of the magazine until nominations are closed.
2. The President shall appoint a Chairman and at least two additional members, with Board approval, to be a nominating committee, to seek out candidates for elective offices during election years. The nominating committee shall inform the ACS Board the names of all nominees, on a weekly basis. The nominating committee shall present a final report, containing the names of all nominees to the Secretary by June 1 of each election year. No other nominations, as write in candidates or otherwise will be included after June 1.
3. All other nominations must be mailed to the Secretary by June 1 of each election year in order to be listed on the ballot.
4. All nominees for office must be members in good standing for a minimum of 2 years.
5. All members nominated for an office shall be contacted by the Secretary to confirm their willingness to serve in that office and advise them of the duties of that office.
6. A name may appear only once on the final ballot for an elective office. These offices are: President, 1st VP Exhibition, 2nd VP Membership, 3rd VP Breeding Management & Research, 4th VP Communications, 5th VP Pet Cockatiel Information & Issues, Secretary, Treasurer and Chairman of Judges Panel.

7. The secretary shall direct the editor to publish the final ballot in the ACS magazine in the next available issue after nominations close. Each paid member will be entitled to one vote.
8. The Secretary shall receive all ballots no later than September 1 of each election year.
9. The Secretary shall appoint a CPA or notary public to count and certify ballots. If ALL offices are uncontested, the Secretary will forego the use of a CPA/notary public and will announce the results of the election. The Secretary will provide the CPA/notary public with self-addressed, stamped envelopes for each member of the Board of Directors and will direct the CPA/notary to mail a copy of election results to each Board member at the same time.
10. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected.
11. After completion of the election, the ballots are to be filed for two months, with the secretary. After two months, if there is no contest to the election results, the ballots may be destroyed. The certified statement of election results will be retained with all ACS records.
12. The newly elected officers will be notified by the Secretary and an announcement published, by the Editor, in the last issue of the ACS Magazine, of the election year.
13. The Board of Directors shall have the power to recall any elected office by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the entire Board of Directors, including the President, voting after a 20-day discussion period.
14. Elected officers will assume office on January 1st.

Article V

Section 1, Officers and Duties of Office:

1. No member may run for an ACS Board position if they have served on the Board of another National Cockatiel Organization that would be considered a conflict of interest by the ACS Board of Directors within the past 2 years. No ACS Board Member shall serve on another National Cockatiel organization while serving on the ACS Board of Directors.
2. These officers are elected by a simple majority vote of the general membership, pursuant to Article IV, except Past President and Judges Panel Chairperson.

Section 2, President:

1. Supervises the daily business and functioning of ACS, coordinates all activities of ACS and carries out the decisions of the Board of Directors concerning ACS;
2. presides over all meetings;
3. serves as an ex-officio member of all ACS committees with the exception of the nominating committee;
4. appoints all committees and chairpersons other than those specifically addressed otherwise in the by-laws;
5. casts the deciding vote in case of a tie;
6. shall be the representative and official spokesperson of the policy set by the ACS

Board of Directors.

Section 3, Past President:

1. Assists incoming Board for smooth transition.

Section 4, 1st Vice-President Exhibition:

1. Acts as interim President in the event that the President is unable to perform his/her duties (illness, resignation, etc.). This assumption of duties will continue until a permanent replacement has been selected and approved by a ¾ vote of the entire Board of Directors or the President is able to resume his/her duties.
2. acts as an advisor for clubs hosting ACS Regional Shows and ACS Specialty show;
3. orders all trophies/ribbons and other awards for all shows;
4. updates the Editor and Webmaster on all club show dates, sites and judges;
5. supervises the Points Registrar;
6. prepares an article, in digital format, for publication in each issue of the *ACS Magazine*.

Section 5, 2nd Vice-President, Membership

1. Is in charge of efforts to increase membership;
2. keeps records on all paid and delinquent members;
3. informs the Editor, Points Registrar, and Secretary of all changes in membership status on a monthly basis;
4. keeps a record of and assigns all code numbers on leg bands;
5. orders bands for only paid members;
6. is in charge of affiliated clubs;
7. sees that patronage and affiliation forms are sent to all affiliated clubs at the first of each year;
8. sees that copies of returned and completed patronage forms are sent to the Magazine Editor and Webmaster;
9. sees that the 1st Vice President, Exhibition, as well as the Editor and Webmaster receive information on all affiliations and upcoming shows as it becomes available through affiliated clubs.

Section 6, 3rd Vice-President, Breeding Management & Research:

1. Prepares an article, in digital format, for publication in each issue of the ACS Magazine;
2. keeps up to date on research into cockatiel health, nutrition and behavior and reports same to membership via the ACS Magazine and the official ACS website;
3. responds to persons seeking advice regarding the breeding and management of cockatiels and research into their health, nutrition and behavior;
4. researches and provides genetics information to the membership;
5. identifies research programs and coordinates grants made by the ACS.

Section 7, 4th Vice President, Communications:

1. Supervises the American Cockatiel Society Magazine Editor;
2. supervises the American Cockatiel Society Webmaster;
3. supervises national advertising efforts;
4. is responsible for the selection of printers and publishers for media utilized in publishing the ACS Magazine;
5. is responsible for all special publications of the Society;
6. ensures that the Magazine is published in accordance with the schedule established by the BOD;
7. advises the BOD of any issues or problems that affect the ACS Magazine;
8. maintains the ACS website and utilizes current technology to keep the website attractive and relevant.
9. reports website statistics to the BOD on a quarterly basis.

Section 8, 5th Vice President, Pet Cockatiel Information & Issues:

1. Prepares an article, in digital format, for publication in each issue of the ACS *Magazine*;
2. develops pet-related programs for affiliated clubs;
3. creates packets to promote pet members of the ACS;
4. develops and promotes a youth program;
5. reports to the Board of Directors on pet cockatiel related issues and challenges;
6. manages and moderates Pet chat groups and forums.

Section 9, Secretary:

1. Keeps the minutes of the general and board meetings;
2. notifies the Board of Directors of the results of issues voted on by the board;
3. the secretary will prepare a quarterly report, in digital format, of BOD voting activity for publication in the ACS Magazine. Minutes of the general meeting shall be reported within 30 days from the time of the general meeting;
4. keeps the Editor informed on any changes in the bylaws;
5. keeps all past and present ACS correspondence and records,. follows the directives of Article IV in relation to nominations and elections;
7. is in charge of all general correspondence;
8. sends out all special notices via ACS Magazine;
9. sends out all motions within five (5) days of receipt, after 10 days of discussion send for a vote of 7 days.

Section 10, Treasurer:

1. Receives all monies and is in charge of all funds for the Society;

2. submits a quarterly statement to the Board of Directors;
3. provides an annual statement to the ACS Magazine Editor for publication.

Section 11, Judges Panel Chairperson:

1. Is elected by the members of the Judges Panel;
2. term of office is to run concurrently with other elected Board of Director positions;
3. election ballots for the Judges Panel Chairperson shall be received by the CPA/notary who is designated by the Secretary to receive the membership ballots for the Board of Directors. If candidate is unopposed, candidate wins by acclamation and Notary/CPA is waived;
4. appoints the chairperson and committee members for a special committee to be known as the "Standards Committee." The Standards committee chairperson and members are to be approved as a group, by a vote of the entire Board of Directors. This committee will be in charge of all issues related to the ACS Standards for the ideal cockatiel and show cage.
5. processes judging panel applications and oversees testing for apprentice judges.
6. oversees any problems arising from conduct and judging procedures of ACS Panel Judges;
7. is responsible for an article to appear in each issue of the *ACS Magazine*;
8. all correspondence between the Judges panel, concerning any amendments or information gathering regarding the Rules and Regulations or any panel business requiring a vote must be sent to the Secretary to be forwarded to the entire Board.

Article VI

Section 1, Terms of Office:

1. No one person may hold more than one elected office concurrently;
2. the term of elected offices shall be two years or until their successors are elected;
3. no President shall serve more than two consecutive terms;
4. Unfilled offices between elections:
 - a. In case of an unfilled office, for any reason, the office of President, 1st VP, Exhibition, 2nd VP, Membership, 3rd VP, Breeding Management & Research, will be offered the next in line. However should the 3rd VP, decline the new office, the President or Board of Directors will nominate a replacement to be approved by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the Board of Directors.
 - b. Any other unfilled office, for any reason, shall be filled by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote cast by the Board of Directors for the unexpired term.
5. No two members of the same household may serve concurrently on the Board of Directors without Board approval.

Article VII

Section 1, Board of Directors:

1. The Board of Directors will be elected by the general membership, with the exception of the Chairperson of the Judges Panel and the immediate Past President;
2. the Board of Directors consists of the duly elected President, immediate Past President, 1st VP, Exhibition, 2nd VP, Membership, 3rd VP, Breeding Management & Research, 4th VP, Communications, 5th VP, Pet Cockatiel Information & Issues, Secretary, Treasurer and Judges Panel Chairperson.
3. Chairperson of the Judges Panel shall be an American Cockatiel Society, Inc. Judge in good standing, elected by the Judges Panel, subject to approval by the Board of Directors. The Judges Panel Chairperson shall serve on the Board of Directors.
4. All Board members must be members in good standing.
5. No ACS Board Member shall serve on the Board of another National Cockatiel organization while serving on the ACS Board of Directors.
6. Each member of the Board of Directors is entitled to only one vote on any motion, whether by mailed ballot, electronically transmitted or in person vote.
7. Any member of ACS has the right to bring an item of business before the Board of Directors. That item of business should be proposed in writing, to the Secretary, who will report same to the Board within 10 days.
8. The Secretary will ask for discussion from the Board of Directors on all items of business, within 5 days, and at the end of 10 days, will ask the Board of Directors for a vote on the matter. All votes must be received by the Secretary within 7 days of the call for a vote. In emergencies affecting the operation of ACS, an immediate response may be requested.
9. Any two Board Members may determine that any item of business, affecting continued operation of ACS, constitutes an emergency for the purpose of requesting an immediate response. All other business will be conducted according to item #8 above.
10. Voting results involving specific individuals will become a part of the secretary's record; however, only the final vote count will be published, with no names mentioned.
11. All votes cast by the members of the Board of Directors will be recorded by the Secretary, who will then provide the Editor with a report of the issues requiring Board votes, including how each Board Member voted, for publication in the *ACS Magazine*.
12. In addition to the normal business procedures outlined above, the BOD will meet annually at the ACS Specialty Show immediately preceding the General Membership meeting. These in-person meetings will require a quorum of 50% plus one member of the voting board to conduct business. Items of business, except bylaws amendments, brought before the board at these meetings, are not subject to the normal 10 day waiting period before a call for vote.

Section 2, Duties of the Board:

1. The Board of Directors oversees and manages all of the affairs, business and property of this Society.
2. Any expenses over \$100, or outside the normal operation of ACS, shall require a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors for approval.
3. Unless otherwise stated in bylaws, all issues voted on by the Board of Directors will be approved by a simple majority vote (one vote more than half the votes cast.)

Article VIII

Section 1, Advisory Board:

Members of the Advisory Board receive all board correspondence and provide advice and counsel to the Board of Directors.

Section 2, Regional Directors:

1. Must reside in the region they are representing;
2. will be appointed by the President and ratified by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors;
3. shall provide support for the local show chairman of the ACS Regional show in his/her region;
4. appoints all State Representatives within their region;
5. coordinates State Representative activities within their region and acts as the liaison between State Representatives and the ACS Board of Directors;
6. advises the Editor and webmaster of all changes in State Representatives;
7. presents regional information to the Board of Directors;
8. responsible for solicitation of regional advertising for the *ACS Magazine* and/or the official ACS website;
9. In case of vacancy, procedures provided for in Item 2 will be followed to choose a replacement.
10. Regional Directors and the states within each region are as follows:
Region 2: ME, NH, MA, CT, RI, NY, VT, PA, W. VA, DE, MD, NJ.
Region 4: NC, SC, GA, AL, TN, KY, MS, VA.
Region 6: Florida, Puerto Rico
Region 8: AR, LA, OK, TX, NM
Region 9: OH, MI, IN, IL, WI
Region 10: ND, SD, NE, KS, MO, MN, IA
Region 11: WA, OR, ID, MT, AK, W. Canada
Region 12: CA, NV, CO, WY, AZ, HI, UT
11. Conducts a meeting for ACS members at the regional meeting in their area.

Section 3, Editor:

1. Secures content, edits and publishes the *ACS Magazine*;
2. ensures that the Magazine is mailed in a timely manner;
3. is under the direction of the VP, Communications and Board of Directors;
4. The Board of Directors has final discretion on all matters concerning the *ACS Magazine*;
5. receives a copy of all Board of Directors' decisions from the Secretary and publishes same in the *ACS Magazine*;
6. chooses printer with advice and consent from the Treasurer and the VP Communications.

Section 4, Webmaster:

1. Edits and publishes the official web page of the American Cockatiel Society;
2. is under the direction of the VP Communications and the Board of Directors on all matters relating to the web page including design and content;
3. ensures that website content is up to date;
4. refers inquiries received through the website to appropriate person for reply.

Section 5, State Representatives:

1. Reports directly to the Regional Director in charge of their state of residence.
2. Duties are:
 - a. Promoting the American Cockatiel Society through memberships and education;
 - b. relating the ideal and standards of the American Cockatiel Society, Inc. to all concerned;
 - c. keeps current on local, state and federal activities detrimental to aviculture and reports any proposed detrimental legislation to the State Representative Chairperson.

Section 6, Parliamentarian:

Advises the President, Board of Directors and/or members on Parliamentary procedures when necessary and/or as requested by any member of the Board of Directors.

Section 7, Points Registrar:

1. Receives and checks completed show reports from ACS Panel Judges.
2. Records show results and awards points as indicated on show reports.
3. Provides Champion and Grand Champion certificates to appropriate exhibitors at the Specialty show each year. If the exhibitor is not preset, certificates may be mailed to the exhibitor.
4. Provides “end of year” report to the Editor for the ACS Magazine.
5. Receives show reports and records points received from official point registrars of other societies as directed by the ACS Board of Directors.

Article IX

Section 1, General Meeting:

1. At least one General Meeting will be held each year.
2. The General Meeting will be held in conjunction with the ACS Specialty Show.
3. All ACS business may be reviewed and discussed at the general membership meeting. On issues requiring membership vote, a ballot will be sent by the secretary to the editor to be published in the *ACS Magazine* to each member. The secretary will be responsible for

receiving and counting ballots as per Article IV of the bylaws and for reporting results to the Board of Directors. The Editor will then publish the results in the next available issued of the *ACS Magazine*.

Section 2, ACS Specialty Show:

1. The American Cockatiel Society, Inc. will pay for transportation, not to exceed coach air fare, lodging and meals (which is considered average or normal) to the American Cockatiel Society Judge that judges at Board of Directors approved shows.
2. The Judges panel will make a recommendation for the next year's Advanced Specialty Show Judge at the Judges Panel Annual meeting. This recommendation will consider seniority of panel judge. (A senior judge is one that has been an ACS Panel Judge for at least five years). Also, the recommended panel judge must live outside the region of the Specialty Show and not have judged a Specialty Show in the last 5 years. The recommendation of the Judges panel will be presented to the ACS Board of Directors for final approval. Once approved by the Board of Directors, the name of the selected judge will be announced at the General Membership meeting.
 - a. ACS affiliated clubs will make application to host the ACS Specialty show by mailing their application to the ACS 1st VP, Exhibition. The ACS 1st VP, will collect all applications and present all locations to the ACS Board of Directors for a vote. The ACS Specialty show will not be awarded to the same region two years in a row (exception: if only one club applies to host the Specialty, it will be approved as the host club – regardless of regional location.) Whenever possible, the Board of Directors vote should take place at the Specialty show Board meeting with the results announced at the general membership meeting.

Article X

Section 1, Amendments:

1. Any or all of the Articles or the Bylaws may be amended, altered, added to or be rescinded, providing such changes are approved by 2/3 of the entire Board of Directors, with voting in accordance with Article VII, Section 8, excluding emergency voting.
2. Amendments approved by the Board, will then be presented to the magazine editor by the secretary to be published in the ACS Magazine with a ballot for each member. The ballot must be returned via US mail to the ACS Secretary within 30 days and approved by 2/3 of the membership vote cast.

Section 2, Rules of Order

Robert's Rules of Orders, Newly Revised shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and not inconsistent with these bylaws and/or the current Standing Rules of this organization.

Article XI

Section 1, Majority Vote:

The regular business of ACS, unless otherwise specified in the bylaws, will be passed by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors. A majority vote shall be a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors consisting of one vote more than half the votes cast.

Article XII

Section 1, Dissolution:

If, on the dissolution of the society there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any assets whatsoever, the same will be distributed to nonprofit Cockatiel research.

Article XIII

Section 1, Insufficient Funds:

In the event the funds and assets prove insufficient to meet the liabilities of this society, the Board of Directors shall have the power to ask each and every member for a sum of money not to exceed \$2 per year per member, to cover the costs needed to run the Society for that year.

Section 2, Disclaimer:

The Members, Directors and Officers of the American Cockatiel Society, Inc. shall not be personally liable for any debt, obligation or liability of ACS. All persons, corporations or other entities contracting with, extending credit to, or having any claim against ACS may look to the funds and property of ACS for payment of any such claim or contract for the payment of any debt, damages, judgment or decree, or of any money that may otherwise become due or payable to them from ACS.

Article XIV

Section 1, Miscellaneous:

1. All checks shall be made to the "American Cockatiel Society, Inc." except as otherwise authorized by the Board of Directors. All legal documents, including

checks, contracts and bonds approved by the Board of Directors shall be signed by the President and the Treasurer.

2. These bylaws approved by the Board of Directors of the American Cockatiel Society, Inc., effective January 1, 2015 as provided by the laws of the State of Texas, supersede and rescind any rules or bylaw heretofore in effect.