



**THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
ORCHIDACEOUS SOCIETY INC**

Amended March 2017

BYLAWS

INTERPRETATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

- [a] All By-laws shall be read with reference and subject to the Rules of the Society and in their interpretation the singular shall include the plural, the masculine shall include the feminine.

All By-laws shall be deemed to be consistent with the intent of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985 and regulations. Should an inconsistency arise the latter shall take precedence.

- [b] Unless otherwise stated in the Rules of the Society or in these by-laws, or in a schedule of the Society the following words and phrases shall have a meaning hereunder assigned to them.

[i] "EXHIBITOR" shall mean a person being a financial member of the Society or an affiliated Society, who benches a plant at any show, or meeting of the Society in accordance with these by-laws or a schedule of the Society. Partners may exhibit jointly or under separate numbers.

[ii] [a] A Second Division Exhibitor shall mean an exhibitor who has nominated for this division and has not won the specified number of promotion points as determined by the Executive Committee. A Second Division Exhibitor shall remain so until the end of the year during which he/she gains the specified number of promotion points. The Partner of a Professional Grower shall not exhibit as a second division grower.

[b] A First Division Exhibitor is an Exhibitor who has nominated for this division or been promoted to this Division or has been nominated for this position by the Executive Committee and is not an Open Division Exhibitor. The Executive Committee shall make such nominations, in accordance with the Judging Panel recommendations.

[c] An Open Division Exhibitor is an Exhibitor who has nominated for this Division or has been promoted to this Division or has been nominated for this position by the Executive Committee, or is a commercial grower. The Executive Committee shall make such nominations, in accordance with the Judging Panel recommendations.

[d] Any Exhibitor who has nominated in any particular division in any Show year cannot show in another division for that show year. An Exhibitor shall remain in their nominated Division for the ENTIRE YEAR.

[e] The promotion of an Exhibitor, Second Division to First Division or First Division to Open Division shall be determined by the Executive Committee, after attaining a nominated number of promotion points and a recommendation from the Judging Committee.

[f] An exhibitor promoted to a higher division in another club will also be promoted within the South Australian Orchidaceous Society Inc.

[g] An Exhibitor may apply to the Registrar for consideration of demotion from Open to First Division if they have not recorded any promotional points in a three year period. The Judging Committee will consider the request and make a recommendation to the executive committee. (no demotion from First to Second Division will be allowed)

[h] An Exhibitor may apply to the Registrar for consideration that a promotion be deferred if he/she considers that there are special circumstances which would justify such a request. The Judging Committee will consider the request and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee

[iii] "SEEDLING" shall mean the complete plant grown from seed, flowering for the first time. It shall retain its seedling status throughout the flowering season in which it first flowers. Sequential flowering plants e.g. sequential flowering Paphiopedilums, retain their seedling status only up to and including their **Third** flower. Seedlings shall be subject to judging Standards as laid down by the Australian Orchid Council.

JUDGING COMMITTEE AND JUDGES

- A. The Registrar, Judges and associate Judges shall constitute the judging committee, the chairman of which will be the Registrar. The Associate Judges shall attend meetings, and shall enter into discussions, but shall not be entitled to vote. The Judges shall meet at least twice a year, and shall make recommendations to the Executive Committee on any matters concerning judging. They shall arrange instruction for Associate Judges, and certify their capabilities for judging.
- B. A Deputy Registrar may be appointed by the Judging Committee.
- C. The appointment of a Deputy Registrar, Judges and Associate Judges shall be confirmed by the Executive Committee.
- D. Associate Judges having completed reasonable service, and reported on by the Judges as being competent, shall be eligible for appointment as Judges.
- E. Associate Judges shall be available at all shows and monthly meetings, and shall perform benching and assembling duties if requested so to do by the Registrar.
- F. If any Judge or associate Judge absents himself/herself from five 5 consecutive Judging Panels without reasonable explanation, his/her appointment may be cancelled by the executive Committee.
- G. The Executive Committee shall at all times have the power to cancel by resolution the election of any Registrar, Judge or Associate Judge, if in the opinion of the executive Committee such Registrar, Judge or Associate Judge shall have failed to properly carried out the duties of his/her office, or shall have acted, whether in the performance of his/her duties, or otherwise, in a manner detrimental to the interest of the Society.
- H. Reserve Judges: The executive Committee on recommendation from the Judging Committee, may create a panel of Reserve Judges and appoint thereto certain Judges who shall each be known as a Reserve Judge and who may be called upon to assist Judges. The executive Committee may at any time remove a Judge from such panel.
- I. Emeritus Judges: The Executive Committee on receipt of a recommendation from the Judging Committee may confer the status of Emeritus Judge on those Judges who have given long and meritorious service to the judging panel of the Society.

AWARDS

- A. The South Australian Orchidaceous Society may award the following Certificates for plants that the Judging Committee consider satisfy the relevant A.O.C. standards and requirements.
 - 1. First Class Certificate. (FCC)
 - 2. Award of Merit. (AM)
 - 3. Highly Commended Certificate. (HCC)
 - 4. Award of Distinction. (AD)
 - 5. Certificate of Botanical Merit (CBM)
 - 6. Award of Cultural Excellence (ACE)
 - 7. Award of Cultural Merit (ACM)
 - 8. Award of Cultural Commendation. (ACC)
- B. In addition to the above, the Executive Committee shall have the power to grant special recognition in what ever form it may consider appropriate to any person it may decide has in any way materially helped to achieve the purposes of the Society as set down in Clause 1 of the Rules of the Society.
- C. The Registrar shall submit to the Executive Committee for ratification all recommendations and awards approved by a Judging Panel.
- D. The Executive Committee shall have the power to ratify or reject any recommendation of a Judging Panel, and to make a decision on any objection to an award being granted.
- E. The Registrar forthwith shall notify the owner of a plant, in writing after ratification, or annulment of an award.
- F. Each certificate of award shall be signed by the President, and Secretary or Registrar and shall be inscribed with the name of the owner and the name and variety of the plant, which is the subject of the award.

- G. Every award granted to a plant shall be recorded by the Registrar stating the name of the owner, name and variety of the plant, date of the award and the registered number of the award, and these details shall be published in the Journal of the Society and in the Monthly Review.
- H. A plant that has gained an award issued by the Society, other than a Certificate of Culture, shall not be eligible for the same award.

JUDGING FOR AWARDS

- A. For the purposes of judging for an award, a Judging Panel shall consist of at least five [5] Judges. The Registrar and the Associate Judges shall be present whenever a plant is judged for an award.
- B. Provided that the Registrar is notified 24 hours before the commencement of a General Meeting, a plant may be submitted for judging for an award at such General Meeting.
- C. A Judging Panel may select a plant from those exhibited at a General Meeting, or show, and with the permission of the owner, judge such plant for an award there and then.
- D. A plant may be judged for an award at times other than those specified above if the flowers of such plants would deteriorate before the next General Meeting, subject to:-
 - 1. The plant being made available at a time and place nominated by the Registrar and
 - 2. The Registrar being able to assemble a panel of Judges.
- E. A Judging Panel may refuse to judge any plant submitted for judging for an award if the plant is considered not to be in show condition or of award quality.
- F. No Judge, or Associate Judge shall be present at the judging for an award of a plant submitted by himself/herself.
- G. An exhibitor shall be eligible to submit a plant to be judged for an award at the Show, or General Meeting at which he/she exhibited the plant, provided that such exhibitor shall conform to the Rules and By-laws of the Society and shall deliver the plant as required by the Registrar.
- H. An exhibitor shall submit the plant complete with inflorescence intact for a judging of an award.
- J. The exhibitor shall remove from the plant all identifying marks of ownership when submitting a plant for judging for an award and before delivering it to the custody of the Registrar who shall treat as confidential all particulars of its ownership until after the judging of such plant is completed.
- K. An exhibitor may submit a plant for judging for an award by, or through a second person provided that he shall forward with the plant a signed statement that the plant is being so submitted with his/her knowledge and consent.
- L. The Registrar shall furnish the Judging Panel with particulars of the breeding and parentage of the plant submitted together with photographs of other flowers of that genus.
- M. Staking for support to Australian Orchid Council Regulations shall be permitted, but such support may be removed before judging, except when in the opinion of the Judges, such removal would cause damage.
- N. Plants on which all the flowers of an inflorescence are not open, or on which a bud or flower is missing or pollinated, may at the discretion of the Judging Panel be judged for an award provided that there is at least one other separate inflorescence of sufficient quality elsewhere on the plant.
- O. An exhibitor submitting a plant for a Cultural Award shall deliver to the Registrar a Declaration of Ownership for two [2] immediately preceding years and a comprehensive written account of the method of culture used in the preparation of the plant.

- P. A plant jointly owned shall be eligible for an award, but only one award shall be given thereto.
- Q. In every case an exhibitor whose plant has been recommended for an award shall make available for photographing a flower selected by the Registrar and shall agree that such photograph shall remain the property of the Society and such exhibitor shall also advise the Registrar of the varietal name of the plant. All expenses incurred to be borne by the exhibitor.
- R. Plants for National Awards must be submitted to the Registrar of the South Australian Regional AOC Judging Panel for recognition.
- S. No plant shall be eligible for competition at any Show or Monthly Competition unless it has been owned by and in the possession of the exhibitor for a period of not less than six [6] months.

SHOWS

- A. Exhibitors and exhibits at any show of the Society shall conform to the By-laws of the Society and to any condition set down in the schedule of such Show.
- B. Schedules of Shows shall be approved by the Executive Committee on recommendation from the Judging panel.
- C. The granting of all prizes at a Show shall be subject to the provisions of the by-laws and Official Show Schedule.
- D. A copy of the Rules and By-Laws of the Society shall be available at all Shows.
- E. Any financial member may object to the granting of a prize at a show provided that he/she shall deliver such objection in writing to the Registrar or the Secretary, during the period of the Show, accompanied by a fee of Twenty Dollars, \$20.00
- F. The decision of the Executive Committee shall be final and binding, regarding any complaint, false declaration or objection of any kind pertaining to Shows.
- G. At all Shows, Meetings or Special Judgings an exhibitor shall accept full responsibility for the safety of his/her plant, or plants, and shall indemnify the Society and its Judges against loss theft or damage of any kind to his/her plant during the period in which it is in the custody of the Society, or its Officers.
- H. The Show Marshall, or in his/her absence his Deputy, shall control the Show or Exhibition at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Failure to comply to the ruling of the Marshall will subject the offending exhibitor[s] to disqualification from competition and/or removal of the offending exhibitor's display from the Show or Exhibition.
- I. Awards in the form of medals and certificates may be granted by the Executive Committee. Gold, Silver or Bronze Medals for single plants, multiple display of plants, or an outstanding advance in or contribution to the improvement or development of plants, to a higher standard in the efficiency of their culture.

PROPERTY

[a] Any article which is the property of the Society shall be duly registered in the Minute Book, of the Society, together with the name of the Custodian at the first meeting of the Executive Committee after each Annual General Meeting, and it shall be accounted for in the Annual Statement. Any such article shall not be relinquished out of the Custodian's care, without the permission of the Executive Committee.

[b] The Executive Committee may by resolution require the Custodian at any time to deliver up to such person or persons as the resolution shall name, any property in his/her custody, and may place the same in the custody of another Custodian, and make all appropriate entries concerning such action in the Minute Book of the Society.

LIBRARY

[a] The library when open to members, shall be under the control of the Librarian, and all members shall comply with his/her requirements.

[b] No member shall remove any book, periodical, magazine, or other printed matter, or any photograph from the Library without the consent of the Librarian, and the giving of such form of receipt therefore (if any) may be required by the Librarian.,

[c] Any Member taking out a book, periodical, magazine, or other printed matter, or any photograph from the Library shall return same to the Librarian prior to the next Regular Meeting. The Librarian shall report to the Executive Committee the name of any defaulting Members together with details of the default. The Executive Committee may determine how such default shall be dealt with and at its absolute discretion may expel the Member under Rule 5.4 "Expulsion of a Member" or otherwise deal with the member as it sees fit.

SPECIAL MEETINGS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Special Executive Committee Meetings can only be called by the President, Vice President or Secretary in conjunction. A notice of five days must be given. A quorum for such Special Executive Meeting shall be one half plus one of the number of members of the Executive Committee.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Any Member who may in dealing with the Society in any manner receive a benefit of a pecuniary nature, either directly or indirectly shall declare His/Her interest in such manner. Failure to disclose such interest shall render the member liable for expulsion.

REGULATION OF BY-LAWS

[a] All By-Laws shall be read with reference to and subject to the Rules of the Society and to the extent that any By-Law is inconsistent with the Rules of this Society then any such By-Law shall be void to the extent of the inconsistency.

[b] All By-Laws shall be passed by ordinary majority of the duly constituted Executive Committee with the Chairman having a casting vote.

[c] By-Laws shall mean all such resolutions passed or executed from time to time by the Executive Committee and shall not include the Rules of the Society.

[d] Any alterations or additions to the By-Laws shall be published in the next issue of the Society's Monthly Review.

PROMOTIONS AND AGGREGATE POINTS

Promotions:

[a] Promotion points are gained over a 3 year rolling period by winning a First place at Major Shows for the year and monthly meetings accumulated aggregate points gained over the year.

[b] One promotion point is awarded for each first place won at a Society Show. (Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, Division Champion, Most Outstanding Seedling, Best Overall, Cymbidium Colour Classes and all Display, Floral Art and Photography classes do not count).

[c] Aggregate Points are accumulated over the year at Monthly meetings:
3 – first place, 2 – second place and 1 – third place.

These points are then totalled up at the end of the year for all classes and a winner declared for each class. 5 class winners are needed for 1 promotional point, (ie. 7 class winners would give 1 promotional point, with no carry over of the other 2 winning places).

25 promotional points are needed for promotion from second to first division.

20 promotional points are needed for promotion from first to open division.

Yearly Aggregate prizes:

The minimum number of aggregate points to win a class prize at the end of year is:

Second Division - 4

First Division - 6

Open Division - 10

Annual Society Awards: In the event of a tie in the tally of aggregate points for end of year trophies, the winner will be decided on a count-back of the most first prizes awarded over the year.

Appendix 1

Conditions for Exhibitors at Shows and Monthly Meetings

1. All members of the Society are eligible to exhibit.
2. The Society will take all reasonable care of exhibits, but shall not be responsible for any loss, destruction or damage of any plants.
3. The Show Marshall shall rearrange any plant or direct it to be exhibited as necessary to enhance contours of exhibits generally.
4. All exhibits shall be under the supervision of the Show Marshall and assistants, and any enquiries regarding exhibits or rules shall be directed to him/her.
5. The Committee reserves the right to reject any plant or exhibit.
6. The Committee reserves the right to remove or rearrange any exhibit.
7. Exhibitors must report to the Show Marshall on entry to the Show area for directions re exhibits and report again after exhibits are completed before leaving the show area.
8. Plants shall not be removed from the show before a direction from the Show Marshall.
9. Each plant or article used in the show shall have an exhibitor's number attached for identification and owners security.
10. All plants are to be labeled with the appropriate color label, and are to display the name of the plant and the exhibitor's number clearly in the places designated on the supplied label
11. No flower or fruit other than orchids may be used in any display.
12. All orchids exhibited shall be owned and grown by the exhibitors for the previous **SIX MONTHS**. If not, the plant shall be marked Not For Competition. (N.F.C.)
13. Any plant exhibited shall be eligible for judging, except where marked N.F.C., *with the proviso that "Unknown" plants may win a First place, but can progress no further. Ie. that they can not progress to a Championship.*
14. For Shows all articles such as pots, boxes etc., used in floor exhibits and including all the visible floor area of the exhibit, to be covered with covering as directed by Committee, and to the satisfaction of the Show Marshall or his assistants.
15. Judging to the A.O.C. Standards.
16. If in the opinion of the judging panel, any exhibit or plant is not to the required standard, prizes may not be awarded.
17. Please note exhibiting times and dismantling times that are published, as these times are important for all concerned to assist the smooth coordination of all facets of the show.
18. **Staking of plants:** Cymbidiums are to have only one tie above the bottom flower for show purposes, although more ties may be used below the flower, within reason; Paphiopedilums and Cattleyas are to be tied and staked below the ovary.
19. At monthly meetings, members are requested to leave their plants on the benches for at least 10 minutes after the closure of the meeting, (Except with the permission of the Judging Registrar)