

CURRENT CONSTITUTION

TAMPA BAY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - NAME

This association shall be known as the Tampa Bay Beekeepers Association (TBBA), a nonprofit corporation of the State of Florida.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

SECTION 1. The purpose and functions of the Association shall be:

- A. Support Florida State Beekeepers Association, Inc.
- B. Develop and promote practical beekeeping methods in the Tampa Bay Area.
- C. Promote the use of honey and beehive products in the Tampa Bay Area, and help to educate children and adults in the use of beehive products and honey.
- D. Act in the interests of the beekeepers protecting and carrying on beekeeping affairs.
- E. Act as a representative of the Tampa Bay Beekeepers in State and National beekeeping and legislative matters.
- F. Act as a medium for, and an aid in, cooperative and mutual beekeeping methods.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. There shall be three classes of membership in this organization: ACTIVE, LIFE, HONORARY.

SECTION 2. Dues shall be payable October 1 of each year and any member delinquent after December 31 will be dropped from the membership rolls.

SECTION 3. Members must also be a member of the State Beekeepers Association and pay current dues to said association.

SECTION 4. ACTIVE members shall include anyone who is involved in the beekeeping industry in the Tampa Bay Area and/or is interested in the keeping of bees or in the promotion or beekeeping management policies, sales of honey and/or hive products. Active members will satisfy Article III Section 2.

SECTION 5. HONORARY members may be nominated at all regular meeting and elected to honorary membership at the next regular meeting with a 3/4 vote of members present. Honorary Members are not required to pay annual Tampa Bay Beekeepers Association dues. Honorary members do not have voting privileges.

SECTION 6. Any Active or Honorary Member may become a LIFE Member of the association by donating one ten-frame colony of bees to the Apiary Committee, subject to inspection and acceptance of the Apiary Committee, and shall contain the following:

- One (1) bottom board, or equivalent;
- One (1) cover;
- One (1) queen excluder;
- Three (3) deep hive bodies or one (1) deep hive body and three (3) 6-5/8" modified supers;
- Ten (10) good frames and combs for each super named above;
- One (1) Colony of bees free from disease.

In lieu of the above items, life membership may be obtained by donating beekeeping equipment or supplies, equivalent value or sufficient fund: to purchase above as determined by the Apiary Committee. A Life Member of this association is exempt from paying local association dues.

SECTION 7. Regular meetings of the Tampa Bay Beekeepers Association shall be held on the second Thursday of each month. Notice of the date and place will be provided by the Secretary one week prior to each month's meeting.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The constitutional officers of the association shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary and

Treasurer.

SECTION 2. Officers shall be elected at the September meeting and be installed and take office at the October meeting.

SECTION 3. Two representatives shall be elected at the September meeting to the Board of Managers of the Florida State Beekeepers Association and shall be elected from the Active membership and Life membership.

SECTION 4. Officers of the association and Board of Managers representatives shall be elected for the term of one year and the president shall serve no longer than two (2) consecutive years.

SECTION 5. The officers and Board of Managers representatives shall constitute the Executive Board.

SECTION 6. Vacancies occurring during a term or office shall be filled by election, such election to take place at the first regular meeting after the vacancy occurs.

ACTICLE V-- NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. A Nominating committee shall consist of three members: a chairman appointed by the President and two members elected by the association membership at the August meeting.

SECTION 2. The nominating committee shall nominate one candidate to be elected to each office including two representatives for the Board of Managers of the Florida State Beekeepers Association. The report shall be given at the September meeting.

SECTION 3. Nominations may be made from the floor at the time of elections.

SECTION 4. Election shall be by written ballot if more than one candidate is presented for the office, or upon proper motion, the secretary may be instructed to cast a unanimous vote for the persons nominated for the office. All offices will be voted upon individually.

SECTION 5. A majority vote shall elect.

SECTION 6. An officer may be removed from office for non-performance or criminal conviction by vole of a 2/3 majority. Opportunity to answer charges will be presented.

ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECT1ON 1. The President shall:

- A. Preside at all meetings of the association and its Executive Committee and perform all duties pertaining to the office. The President shall be a member ex-officio of all committees except the Nominating Committee.
- B. Appoint a Chaplain and Librarian of the Association and all Chairmen of Standing and Special Committees.
- C. Call meetings upon request of 2/3 of the membership, or a majority request by the Executive Board. Executive Board Meetings shall be at the discretion of the President to transact additional business projects or discuss action to be taken by Executive Board recommendations to the membership.

SECTION 2. The Vice-President shall:

- A. Perform all duties of the President in case of absence or vacancy of office, and assist the President upon request.
- B. Serve as Chairman of the Apiary Committee.
- C. Be authorized to sign checks in the absence of the President or Treasurer, and be the assistant to the Treasurer.

SECTION 3 The Secretary shall:

- A. Keep a record of all meetings, send notices of meetings, maintain a current list of members.
- B. Furnish a written agenda of the organization's monthly meeting for each meeting. The Secretary and/or President shall attempt to limit the time of the business session to a maximum of thirty (30) minutes.
- C. Be responsible for preparing and sending all notices for budget and financial business.

- D. Collect association dues and FSBA dues from current and new members and deposit said funds with the Treasurer for accounting records.
- E. Be responsible for all papers/records pertaining to the office. Be responsible for incoming and outgoing correspondence for the association.
- F. Determine a quorum at all meetings and have attendance at each meeting recorded by signature.
- G. Maintain a current listing of Standing and Special Committees, committee chairmen and committee members.
- H. Give a report of the prior meetings at the current monthly meetings.

SECTION 4. The Treasurer shall:

- A. Be responsible for all monies belonging to the association, and keep an accurate account of such.
- B. Have authority to sign all checks, with co-signature of the President. The Vice-President shall sign in the absence of the President or Treasurer.
- C. Be accountable for all receipts and disbursements, collect and deposit membership dues for the association and remit FSBA dues to its association Secretary within 30 days of receipt.
- D. Give a financial report at each regular meeting including Apiary income/expense accounting from the beginning of the fiscal year to date
- E. Have accounts arranged and prepared an external audit each year after the September (Oct) meeting and at the end of this official's term transfer all monies and records to the incoming Treasurer.
- F. Furnish a bond in amount determined by the Executive Board, if necessary, with the cost there of being at the expense of the association.

ARTICLE VIII - CONDUCTION OF BUSINESS

To conduct business the following is necessary:

- A. An annual operating budget shall be drafted by the Budget Committee (or Executive Board) and presented and voted upon at the first meeting following the installation of officers.
- B. The quorum necessary to conduct business is 20% of the Life and Active members present at any meeting.
- C. To approve a yearly operating budget or an extraordinary financial expenditure outside of the budget that involves over 750 dollars, a 3/4 majority of votes cast after the mailing of a 30 day notice of the budget or extraordinary expenditure.
- D. To approve any ordinary business of the organization will require a simple majority of the members present.
- E. As a part of the budget a separate fund (bank account) will be established solely for donations or contributions to organizations, agencies or institutions commensurate with Article II Section I of this constitution. All charitable : donations and expenses not for operation of the TBBA will come from this fund Proposal for such contributions will be for undesignated money in this account and money to be raised. Proposals will include specific recipients and specific amounts. Proposals will be made from the floor at the March meeting and the chair can entertain requests from guests for funding. Printed absentee ballots will be mailed to all active and life members giving 30 day notice prior to the balloting. Balloting will be at the May meeting to include all absentee ballots submitted to the secretary by members not present and by the votes of the members present. Simple majority is necessary for approval.

ARTICLE VIII - ASSOCIATION APIARY

SECTION 1. The association shall operate one or more apiaries under the supervision of the Apiary Committee.

SECTION 2. the active or life membership The Vice-President shall serve as Apiary Committee Chairman, with two members serving from.

SECTION 3. The net income from said apiary or apiaries shall be deposited with the association Treasurer and recorded under Apiary Account.

SECTION 4. In the event the Vice President is incapacitated or unable to serve as chairman of the Apiary Committee, a successor shall be appointed by the President upon approval of the Executive Board.

SECTION 5. The President shall appoint a committee consisting of three members not involved with the management of the association's apiary to inventory the apiary assets during the month of November and/or December and present their report at the first meeting of the calendar year.

SECTION 6. The Treasurer shall give a report of all apiary income and expense at the first meeting of the calendar year.

ARTICLE IX – PARLIMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the proceedings of this association in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE X - AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION OR STANDING RULES

This constitution may be amended at any meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present, providing a copy of the proposed changes has been sent in writing to each member at least sixty (60) days prior to the meeting. Approval of an amendment shall be done by written ballot.

ARTICLE XI - DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of the Tampa Bay Beekeeper; Association, the assets of this organization shall be transferred to the Florida State Beekeepers Association (FSBA). In case the FSBA is not, at that time, a viable entity the assets will be distributed exclusively to non-profit beekeeping organizations which would qualify under the Provision of Section 501 c 3 of the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations there under. No member or officer of the association or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of its assets.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

ADOPTED
REVISIONS
AMENDED
APPROVED

TAMPA BAY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION STANDING RULES:

1. Annual dues of members of this association are \$5.00 local association: FSBA \$15.00.
2. Hospitality & Welfare Committee shall be appointed by the President
3. Standing Committees are as follows: Hospitality & Welfare, Audit, Program, Apiary, Queen, Exhibits and Fairs, Budget, Social, Youth Program, Cooperative Activities, By-Laws and Media.
4. A Librarian is in charge of all books, etc. of the association and is appointed by the President.
5. The regular place of meeting shall be designated by the officers.
6. The meeting will occur on the second Thursday of each month and will begin at 7:30 PM.
7. A member must give written notice to the Secretary if they desire to resign. No dues shall be refundable upon resignation. Notice of resignation of said member shall be reported at the next regular meeting of the association and said member shall be dropped from the rolls.
8. Suggested Order of Business shall be as follow:

Meeting Called to Order
Invocation
Introduction of Guests
Covered Dish Dinner
Program
Questions & Answers
Business Call to Order
Minutes
Treasurer Report
Announcements
Standing Committee Report
Old Business
New Business
Adjournment