

WORLD BUDGERIGAR ORGANISATION

CONSTITUTION - 2024

1. **NAME**

The organisation shall be called **The World Budgerigar Organisation** (The Organisation).
Founded 1st April 1994.

2. **OBJECTIVES**

- (i) To bring together representatives of member societies and to encourage unification within the country if more than one society exists.
- (ii) To serve as a unified international advisory organisation in promoting common standards for the budgerigar fancy throughout the world.
- (iii) To support and encourage the free movement of budgerigar breeders and budgerigars across international borders in order to improve the breeding, exhibiting and judging of budgerigars.
- (iv) To assist in the protection of the interests of members of the organisation.
- (v) To assist in the progress of scientific knowledge by the accumulation of data and literature and the distribution thereof amongst members of the organisation.
- (vi) To reward any work of outstanding merit with prizes or other marks of recognition.

3. **MEMBERSHIP**

- (i) Membership of The Organisation is open to any National Budgerigar Society catering for all varieties of Budgerigar that applies in writing for membership to the Secretary/Treasurer signifying its' acceptance of the constitution and paying the stipulated annual membership fee subject to the following conditions:
 - a) Have been in existence for at least two years.
 - b) Provide acceptable documentation that they have been in existence for at least two years.
 - c) Provide a copy of their constitution.
- (ii) Where a country is already represented in the WBO by a National Budgerigar Society(s) catering for all varieties of Budgerigar, any new applicant will not be accepted.
- (iii) Where a country is not affiliated to the WBO by a national budgerigar society, individual Societies may apply in writing for membership to the Secretary/Treasurer subject to the application being accompanied by the stipulated annual membership fee. Such Societies will relinquish their membership upon the acceptance of a national body within their country that satisfies condition (ii) above.
- (iv) Annual membership fees are payable by 31st May of each year. Societies not paying the membership fee by 31st May shall lose the right to send delegates to meetings and other benefits of membership until such fees have been paid.

- (v) Annual membership fees shall be based on the total membership of the society at the end of its financial year preceding the date on which the Organisation fees are payable.
- (vi) Membership fees must be paid in the currency of the country of residence of the Secretary/Treasurer.
- (vii) At its sole discretion the General Council may, by 65% majority, terminate the affiliation of any National Society that fails to observe the rules of the Organisation or in any way brings the Organisation into disrepute by act, deed, word or omission.

4. **REPRESENTATION**

- (i) Each member society is eligible to send two delegates to meetings of the General Council.
- (ii) Delegates must reside in the country which they represent.
- (iii) Delegates must be a member of the society they represent.
- (iv) Delegates can only represent one society at a meeting.

5. **VOTING**

- (i) Votes shall be allocated to member societies on the following basis:

<u>Number of members in society</u>	<u>Number of votes</u>
5000 or more	10
3000 to 4999	8
1000 to 2999	6
500 to 999	4
Less than 500	2

- (ii) Proxy voting can be accepted by the Secretary on any item considered under 6(iv) below. Such votes to be received by the Secretary at least 7 days before the meeting.

6. **MANAGEMENT**

- (i) The management of the Organisation shall be vested in the General Council which shall be entitled to delegate management to sub committees and individuals.
- (ii) Sub committees and individuals must regularly report progress in writing to the General Council.
- (iii) The General Council shall appoint the Chairman of sub committees and the Secretary/Treasurer shall provide secretarial and administrative services.
- (iv) The Secretary/Treasurer shall give in writing to all member societies at least one month notice of each meeting and any matter on which a vote is to be taken that may affect member societies.
- (v) The general management of the Organisation, in between Council meetings, shall be vested, in the Executive Committee consisting of the Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer, Vice Chairman, 2nd Vice Chairman, immediate past Chairman and immediate past Secretary.

- (vi) All official communications shall be conducted through the office of the Secretary.

7. **THE GENERAL COUNCIL**

- (i) The General Council shall consist of the following:
 - a) Representatives listed under Rules 4(i) and 4(ii).
 - b) The Chairman
 - c) The Vice Chairman
 - d) The 2nd Vice Chairman
 - e) The Secretary/Treasurer
 - f) The immediate past Chairman
 - g) The immediate past Secretary
 - h) Past Chairmen & past Secretaries who can attend meetings and contribute to the debates without voting powers and the right to expenses.
- (ii) The General Council shall meet at least once in every two years and shall be responsible for arranging the date and the location of meetings.
- (iii) The General Council shall ensure that minutes of all its meetings are fully recorded and sent to the attendees within two months of the meeting and giving two weeks for approval before the final circulation to all member societies.
- (iv) The General Council shall be responsible for the Constitution of the Organisation which may be amended from time to time by a 65% majority of all votes cast.
- (v) The General Council meeting shall determine the annual membership fees of the Organisation which may be amended from time to time by a 65% majority of all votes cast at that meeting.
- (vi) The General Council shall appoint, as per Rule 9, the Chairman and the Secretary/Treasurer who will be independent.
- (vii) The General Council shall appoint, as per Rule 9, the Vice Chairman and 2nd Vice Chairman from within the membership of the General Council.
- (viii) The General Council meeting shall decide the annual budget.
- (ix) The General Council meeting shall appoint an Auditor.
- (x) The General Council meeting shall consider the annual balance sheet.
- (xi) A quorum of the General Council meeting shall be a minimum of six fully paid up member countries.

8. **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL**

- (i) A Special Meeting of the General Council.
 - (a) May be called by either the Chairman or the Secretary for any special purpose.
 - (b) Shall be called by either the Chairman or the Secretary upon receipt of a written requisition from at least five member countries. Such requisition to commence with a proposer and seconder, state the purpose of the meeting and be individually signed by all of the delegates of the countries making the requisition, which must be fully

paid up members of the W.B.O. at both the time of making the requisition and at the time of the meeting.

- (ii) The date, time, place and resolutions placed before the Special Meeting shall be circulated to all member countries at least six weeks before the meeting.
- (iii) The date, time and place of the Special Meeting shall be determined by either the Chairman or the Secretary depending on who is calling the meeting.
- (iv) A quorum shall be 50% plus one of the member countries.

9. **OFFICERS**

The Officers of the Organisation shall be:

- (i) The Chairman who will be elected for a period of three years and shall only have a casting vote.
- (ii) The Secretary/Treasurer who will be elected for a period of three years and shall not receive a vote.
- (iii) The Vice Chairman who will be elected for a period of three years and shall be eligible to vote as a delegate during General Council meetings. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman will be Chairman. Such nominations must be accepted from the Society of which the nominee must be a member and resides in that country.
- (iv) The 2nd Vice Chairman who will be elected for a period of three years and shall be eligible to vote as a delegate during General Council meetings. The main responsibility is to look after the affairs of the Colour Budgerigar. Such nominations must be accepted from the Society of which the nominee must be a member and resides in that country.
- (v) The immediate past Chairman who shall have no vote and shall be replaced when there is a new Chairman.
- (vi) The immediate past Secretary who shall have no vote and shall be replaced when there is a new Secretary.
- (vii) Nominations for the positions of Chairman, Vice Chairman, 2nd Vice Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer must be received in writing by the Secretary/Treasurer before 31st December prior to the election. Such nominations must be acceptable to the society from which the nominee resides.
- (viii) New candidates for any elected position must be nominated and seconded by separate member countries and must indicate in writing their acceptance of the nomination.
- (ix) The existing Chairman, Vice Chairman, 2nd Vice Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer will automatically be placed on the election form unless they have indicated that they do not wish their names to be considered.
- (x) If there is more than one nomination for the Chairman or Secretary/Treasurer the vote will be carried out by the member societies. A postal ballot of those societies will be conducted by an independent body, agreed by the Executive Committee.

10. **FINANCES**

- (i) All funds of the Organisation shall be kept in an account, registered in the name of the World Budgerigar Organisation, with a national bank in the country of residence of the Secretary/Treasurer.
- (ii) Withdrawals shall require the signature of the Secretary/Treasurer and one of two other persons nominated by the General Council.
- (iii) The financial year shall commence on 1st January and terminate on 31st December.
- (iv) The Secretary/Treasurer shall maintain financial records of the Organisation. Such records to be annually audited and submitted to the General Council.
- (v) Each member of the Organisation will be responsible for the expenses of its delegates.
- (vi) The Organisation will be responsible for the cost of meeting rooms, light refreshments, administrative and, secretarial expenses including essential interpreting costs.
- (vii) The Organisation will pay the travel and 2 nights' accommodation costs incurred by the Chairman and the Secretary/Treasurer in the execution of their duties.
- (viii) The Organisation will pay the 2 nights' accommodation cost incurred by the Vice Chairman, 2nd Vice Chairman, immediate past Chairman and immediate past Secretary in attending General Council meetings.

11. **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

Proposed amendments to the Constitution must be submitted in writing by member societies to the Secretary/Treasurer at least three months prior to a meeting of the General Council.

12. **LANGUAGE**

The official language of the Organisation shall be English and all correspondence to the Secretary/Treasurer shall be in that language.

13. **DISSOLUTION OF THE ORGANISATION**

In the event of the Organisation being dissolved, its funds shall be distributed to member societies in proportion to their last contribution.

Revised 27th July 2018 in Bloemfontein, South Africa
Revised 27th September 2024 in Rottenbach, Austria