

**CONSTITUTION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROPAGATORS' SOCIETY, INC. Eastern Region.**

Article 1 - NAME

1.1 The name of this organization is the International Plant Propagators' Society, Inc. Eastern Region

Article 2 - OBJECTIVES

2.1 The purposes of this organization are to secure recognition for the plant propagator's craft and skill as a professional, to provide for the dissemination of knowledge through the proper channels, and to provide guidance and assistance to plant propagators and producers.

Article 3 - MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Membership shall conform with the requirements specified in the Constitution of the International Plant Propagators' Society and to any additional requirements that may be adopted by majority vote of the members of the International Plant Propagators' Society, Eastern Region – North America at any regular meeting provided that such additional requirements do not abrogate in any way the stringency of the requirements contained in the Constitution of the International Plant Propagators' Society.

3.2 Requirements for membership shall be:

- a) An active association in practice or association in plant propagation and production as defined under Active membership and,
- b) A strong desire to share freely such knowledge and experience as may have been gained. Evidence showing this desire to share will take any of the following forms:
 - i) published articles and papers,
 - ii) lectures, or
 - iii) direct personal discussion with other members

3.3 Participation

- a) It is expected for a member to attend a minimum of one Annual or Area meeting every three (3) years, or in lieu of attendance to contribute a written article for publication in the newsletter.

3.4 Membership Classifications

- a) **ACTIVE MEMBERS** - any person actively engaged in propagating or producing plants for commercial purposes, or employed, or engaged in teaching, extension, or research in horticulture.

- b) **HONORARY MEMBERS** - The Board of Directors may grant Honorary Membership to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the field of plant propagation.
- c) **STUDENT MEMBERS** – Students may apply to become non-dues paying members for up to a four-year period. Student members have access to the newsletter, but not other Active Member resources such as PubHort.

3.5 Individual Memberships shall be processed by the Eastern Region and shall commence upon approval.

Article 4 - RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

- 4.1 Members of the Eastern Region shall be entitled to the following rights and privileges, subject to conditions currently in force:
 - a) To receive copies or publications issued by the Eastern Region.
 - b) To attend meetings arranged by the Eastern Region.
 - c) To attend and vote at all Annual General Meetings and Special Meetings of the Eastern Region.
 - d) After proper notice to raise matters for discussion at Annual General Meetings of the Eastern Region.
 - e) To nominate Officers and Executive Board members of the Eastern Region for election at the Annual General Meeting.

Article 5 - OFFICERS

- 5.1 The elected officers will constitute the Executive Committee and shall consist of the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, and immediate Past-President.
- 5.2 Staff positions will be appointed annually by the Board of Directors and consist of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, the Editor and the Sponsorship Coordinator.
- 5.3 The President, First Vice-President and Second Vice-President shall be elected at the annual meeting, shall hold office for one (1) year and shall not serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms
- 5.4 All officers shall serve without remuneration except the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Editor and Sponsorship Coordinator, each of whom shall receive a salary and expenses, the amount prescribed by the Board of Directors.
- 5.5 The Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Editor and Sponsorship Coordinator will be evaluated annually by the Executive Committee and their duties shall be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Article 6 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 6.1 There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of ten (10) members as follows: the immediate past President, the President, the First Vice-President, the Second Vice-President, and six (6) Directors. At each annual meeting two (2) Directors shall be elected for a three (3) year term.
- 6.2 The Board of Directors shall be charged with the management and control of the affairs and property of the organization and shall authorize and approve all contracts and expenditures of the organization. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to fill vacancies occurring in elected offices between meetings. Six (6) members shall constitute a quorum in meetings of this committee.
- 6.3 The President shall be chairman and the Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as Secretary of the Board of Directors. In the absence of the President, the first Vice-President shall preside. In the absence of the First Vice-President, the Second Vice-President shall preside. If all three should be absent, the Board of Directors shall elect a Chair from among the Board of Directors' members present.
- 6.4 The Board of Directors shall adopt, revise as necessary, and confirm annually Standard Operating Procedures for the Eastern Region.

Article 7 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

- 7.1 The Board of Directors shall meet annually during the annual meeting of the organization (once prior to and once after the Annual Business Meeting) or whenever the President may think necessary, or following a request in writing sent to the Secretary-Treasurer and signed by not less than six (6) Board of Directors members stating the purpose for which such a meeting is desired.
- 7.2 Not less than 30 days notice of meetings, together with the particulars of the business to be transacted, shall be sent in writing by the Executive Secretary-Treasurer to each Board of Directors member.

Article 8 - COMMITTEES

- 8.1 The Board of Directors may constitute or dissolve standing committees to carry out specific work or duties for the Eastern Region.
- 8.2 Committee members may be appointed from among members of the Board of Directors and at large members of the Eastern Region.
- 8.3 The President may appoint any special committee he/she deems necessary to carry out work for the Eastern Region.
- 8.4 All standing committees shall provide a written report to the Board of Directors at least once in any year for presentation at the Annual General Meeting.
- 8.5 Committee members shall serve without remuneration.

8.6 There shall be a standing Executive Committee made up of the past President, President (as Chairperson), and the first and second Vice-Presidents.

- a) The Executive Committee has the authority to resolve pressing or emergency issues. All decisions will be communicated to the other Board of Directors in a forthright fashion.
- b) No policies may be created by the Executive Committee.

Article 9 - INTERNATIONAL DELEGATE

9.1 The Board of Directors shall elect an International Delegate and an International Alternate Delegate to represent the Eastern Region at the International Board and to serve as liaison between the Eastern Region and other Regions.

- a) The International Alternate Delegate shall serve a term of two (2) years and then serve a (2) year term as International Delegate.
- b) The delegates will be selected from the Eastern Region past presidents. It is desirous that the Alternate International Delegate be the immediate Past President or the standing President.
- c) In the event that the immediate Past President or the standing President cannot serve as the Alternate International Delegate, then a past president of the Eastern Region will be selected by the Board of Directors.

Article 10 - MEETINGS

10.1 Annual General Meetings - There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the members of the Eastern Region during the Annual Conference. The Active members present at the Annual General Meeting of the organization shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

10.2 Special Meetings - Special meetings may be called by the President or the Board of Directors at their discretion, but notification to members shall be mailed to the last recorded address of each member at least sixty (60) days before the time for the appointed meeting. All notices of meetings shall set forth the place, date and time of the meeting and include the purpose of said meeting. No other business other than that specified in the notification shall be transacted at any special meeting of the organization. Special meetings may also be called by petition of 50% of all voting members.

10.3 Rules of Order - Roberts Rules of Order (revised) shall govern the conduct at all meetings of the organization and Executive Committee.

10.4 Proxy - Proxy voting in writing or via electronic submission is permitted.

Article 11 - REVENUE

11.1 The Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall be the bonded custodian of all organizational funds and the accounts shall be audited annually.

- 11.2 The Finance Committee shall prepare an annual operating budget for approval by the Board of Directors prior to the end of the fiscal year.
- 11.3 Any special assessment shall be subjected to approval by a majority vote of the members present and voting at the annual meeting.
- 11.4 Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501c (5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Article 12 - AMENDMENTS

- 12.1 This constitution can be amended at any regular meeting by a majority vote of the members present and voting, provided such amendment is presented by the Secretary in writing to the members of the organization at least two (2) months prior to the meeting.
- 12.2 No amendment to this Constitution shall be valid if such abrogates in any way the Constitution or by-Laws of the International Plant Propagators' Society Inc. in the judgement of the Board of Directors of the International Plant Propagators' Society Inc.

AMENDED AND ADOPTED OCTOBER 2012