



Constitution of The American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists

ARTICLE I

Name

The organization shall be known as the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists.

ARTICLE II

Objectives

The objectives of the organization shall be to provide for the association of persons interested in the advancement of veterinary parasitology, for the presentation and discussion of items of common interest, and to further scientific progress by education and research in veterinary parasitology.

This Association is organized exclusively for scientific and educational purposes within the meaning of section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution, the Association shall not carry out any other activities not permitted by an organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Members shall consist of those individuals qualified by background, education and interest in veterinary parasitology.

Section 2. Upon filing application for membership in the Association, new members shall be admitted by the Secretary-Treasurer with approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Honorary membership shall be awarded by the Association to persons who are not members of the Association in recognition of outstanding and sustained achievements in veterinary parasitology. Candidates for honorary membership shall be recommended to

the Awards Committee by any member. Nomination for honorary membership shall be made by the Awards Committee to the membership. Election shall be by majority vote resulting from return of ballots mailed to the membership in February. Biographical sketches of all nominees shall be included in the Spring AAVP Newsletter. Honorary members shall not be eligible to vote and shall not be assessed dues. No more than two (2) honorary members shall be elected in any one year period.

Section 4. Upon retirement a member may become an Emeritus member upon approval of the Executive Committee of a written request to the Secretary-Treasurer for such status. Emeritus members shall retain voting rights, but shall not be assessed dues.

Section 5. Forfeiture of membership will occur when dues are not paid for at least two consecutive years, a letter of notification has been sent, and neither back dues nor current dues have been paid within 60 days of the date of mailing the notification. A member who has forfeited membership by nonpayment of dues must reapply for membership.

Section 6. Expulsion of a member may occur if a motion for expulsion is presented by the Executive Committee at the annual meeting and passed by four-fifths (4/5) of the members present and voting. The member is to be informed in writing of such a motion at least two months in advance of the annual meeting at which the motion is to be presented.

Section 7. The Executive Committee may annually invite any firm, association, corporation, institution or subdivision thereof, to become a corporate associate member, for financial support of the Association.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section 1. Officers of this Association shall consist of the following: President, President-elect, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Immediate Past President.

Section 2. The officers of the Association shall form the Executive Committee and shall be responsible for the administration of the affairs of the Association.

Section 3. For the year in which this section shall first be in effect, a President, President-Elect and Vice President will be elected. The President at the time of the first election under this section will become the immediate Past President.

Section 4. The Vice President shall be elected by a majority vote from ballots distributed to the membership in February. Biographical sketches of all nominees shall be included in the Spring AAVP Newsletter. The elected Vice President shall become the President-Elect of the Association after serving one year as Vice President. In the event of an untimely vacancy the Executive Committee will perform such duties as would otherwise devolve upon the Vice President. The Nominating committee will then present nominations for Vice President in the next AAVP Newsletter.

Section 5. The President-Elect shall become President of the Association after serving one year as the President-Elect.

Section 6. The President shall become the Immediate Past President of the Association after serving one year as the President.

Section 7. The President shall preside over all meetings and shall perform such other duties as may properly devolve upon a presiding officer.

Section 8. The President-Elect shall preside in the absence of the President and, when so acting, shall perform such duties as would otherwise devolve upon the President.

Section 9. In the absence of the President and President-Elect, the Vice President shall be the presiding officer.

Section 10. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by a majority vote, from the ballots distributed to the membership in February, and shall serve a two-year term and shall be eligible for re-election to no more than three (3) additional consecutive terms. An untimely vacancy will be filled by appointment by the Executive Committee with the appointee to serve the unexpired term.

Section 11. In the absence of the President, President-Elect and Vice President, the Secretary-Treasurer shall be the presiding officer.

Section 12. The Secretary-Treasurer shall have custody of the current records, shall record the proceedings of all meetings, shall present at each annual meeting a report of the transactions of the previous meeting, shall handle all funds and collections, and shall pay all bills which the Association may owe. This officer shall maintain rolls of the Membership, shall notify members of delinquency in the payment of dues and shall present, at the annual meeting, an itemized statement of the receipts and expenditures of the previous year.

ARTICLE V

Election of Officers

The Nominating Committee shall present not more than two candidates each for the office of Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer to the editor of the AAVP Newsletter, along with biographical sketches of the nominees, prior to the compilation of the Spring Newsletter. Members may suggest names to the Nominating Committee by writing the Secretary-Treasurer or the chairperson of the Nominating Committee. The ballot containing those nominees' names and space for write-in candidates will be distributed to all members in good standing. A simple majority vote of all ballots returned within 30 days of the ballot distribution date will determine those elected. In the event that a simple majority vote is not achieved, a run-off ballot listing the names of the two individuals with the most votes will be distributed to all members in good standing.

ARTICLE VI

Voting

Only members in good standing will receive ballots and thus be permitted to vote.

ARTICLE VII

Quorum

Fifteen percent (15%) of the membership, present at either annual or called meetings, shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII

Committees and Designees

Section 1. The President in consultation with the Executive Committee shall appoint members of the Association to designated tasks and shall appoint such standing, ad hoc, special, or other committees as deemed necessary.

Section 2a. The President shall appoint chairpersons to elected committees as stipulated in the Association By-Laws.

Section 2b. The President or Vice President shall appoint members to Appointed Committees of the Association as stipulated in the Association By-Laws.

Section 2c. The President shall appoint chairpersons to standing committees as stipulated in the Association Bylaws. In consultation with the President the committee chairpersons shall appoint members to standing Committees of the Association as stipulated in the Association Bylaws for staggered, three-year terms. The committees shall consist of 3-6 members.

Section 3. The President shall appoint an Archivist who shall be responsible for the safe retention of all non-current records of the Association.

Section 4. The President shall appoint a newsletter editor.

Section 5. A nominating Committee consisting of six (6) members of the Association shall be elected by the membership for the purpose of nominating candidates to stand for election annually as stipulated in the Association Bylaws. The President shall appoint the chairperson. Untimely vacancies will be filled by appointment by the Executive Committee with the appointee to serve the unexpired term.

ARTICLE IX

Meetings

Section 1. There shall be at least one meeting held annually.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President.

Section 3. Notification shall be sent to all members at least one month prior to any meeting.

Section 4. Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed in conducting the business meeting.

ARTICLE X

Dues

The annual dues of the Association may be changed at any annual meeting as stipulated in the Association Bylaws.

ARTICLE XI

Amendments

Section 1. Proposed amendment(s) to this Constitution shall be distributed in writing to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the next annual meeting at which it (they) will be considered.

Section 2. A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the members present and voting at the annual meeting shall be necessary to pass an amendment, provided a quorum is present.

ARTICLE XII

Duration and Dissolution

The Association shall continue until a proposal for dissolution shall be passed by four-fifths (4/5) vote of the officers and by four-fifths (4/5) of all members and following amendment of the Constitution as set forth in Article XI to provide for the process of dissolution.

Upon the winding-up and dissolution of this Association, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the Association, the remaining assets shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation or corporation which has established its tax exempt status under section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE XIII

AAVP Newsletter

The official publication of the Association is the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists Newsletter provided to all Members. The AAVP Newsletter is published electronically three times each year. The electronic copies reside on the AAVP website. The Editor, Assistant Editor, and the Electronic Media Committee are responsible for the publication of the AAVP Newsletter.