

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF THE
DELAWARE VALLEY ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB

(Adopted October 19, 1939)

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

The name of this association is the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club.

ARTICLE II

The objects of this Club are the advancement and diffusion of ornithological knowledge.

ARTICLE III

The members of this Club shall be persons who are interested in ornithology considered in its widest sense. There may be four classes of members: Fellows, Active Members, Corresponding Members, and Honorary Members.

ARTICLE IV

The officers of this Club shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor. The five officers, together with six additional Fellows or Active Members elected at large, shall constitute the Council of the Club. The Council shall be the governing body of the Club.

ARTICLE V

Amendments to this Constitution to be effective shall require the affirmative vote of at least three-quarters of the Fellows and Active Members present at a regular stated meeting attended by a quorum. Such amendments shall not be valid unless they shall have been submitted at a preceding regular stated meeting attended by a quorum, and unless notice of the proposed amendments and of the meeting at which they are to be acted upon shall have been mailed to all Fellows and Active Members.

BY-LAWS**ARTICLE I. MEMBERS**

SEC. 1. Fellows shall be residents of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, or Delaware. They shall be eligible to hold any offices and to be Councillors. They may take part in the election of members and officers. They shall be chosen at the annual meeting, in the manner provided in Article IV, from among the Active Members of at least one year's standing, as a recognition of the high quality of their ornithological work.

SEC. 2. Active Members shall be residents of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, or Delaware. They shall be eligible to hold the offices of Secretary, Treasurer and Editor, and to be Councillors. They may take part in the election of members and officers.

SEC. 3. Persons capable of furnishing desirable ornithological information to the Club, but unable, on account of place of residence, from attending meetings regularly, may be elected Corresponding Members. They may attend the scientific sessions of the Club and contribute notes or papers, but shall have no further privileges of membership. When able to meet the qualifications of Active Members they may, upon request and the payment of any fees due, be transferred from the Corresponding class to the Active class. Active Members removing to a distance may, upon request, be transferred to the Corresponding class.

SEC. 4. Ornithologists who have attained especial prominence in their ornithological work may be elected Honorary Members of the Club.

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS

SEC. 1. The President shall preside at the meetings of the Club and of the Council, and the President shall appoint all Committees.

SEC. 2. The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in his absence.

SEC. 3. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Club and Council; shall notify members-elect of their election, shall acknowledge gifts and communications to the Club; and shall, in cooperation with the Committee on Communications, notify all Fellows and Active Members of the time and place of meetings.

SEC. 4. The Treasurer shall collect all dues from members and shall have charge of all moneys belonging to the Club. He shall make no disbursements unless approved by the Council. He shall present a report for audit at the annual meeting of the Club.

SEC. 5. The Editor, with the cooperation of the Publication Committee, shall edit and superintend the publication of such matter as the Council may authorize. He shall also, with the cooperation of the Committee on Publication and the Treasurer, distribute Club publications to members, subscribers and exchanges who are entitled to receive them.

SEC. 6. The Council shall transact all business of the Club, except the elections of members and officers, and shall consider, for approval or disapproval, all nominations for Active Membership.

ARTICLE III. COMMITTEES

SEC. 1. There shall be a standing Committee on Communications which shall cooperate with the Secretary in selecting subjects for presentation at the meetings, and in distributing notices of meetings to Active Members and Fellows.

SEC. 2. There shall be a standing Committee on Field Trips which shall select localities which can be visited with profit, arrange trips, and notify members of such selections and arrangements. It shall provide for transportation and other things so far as may be necessary, but it shall incur no indebtedness without the approval of the Council.

SEC. 3. There shall be a standing Committee on Publication which shall cooperate with the Editor in the preparation and publication of such matter as may be authorized by the Council.

SEC. 4. There shall be a Nominating Committee which shall present nominations for Officers and Councillors at the Annual Meeting of the Club.

SEC. 5. There shall be a standing Committee on Bird Migration which shall collect records of arrival and departure of birds from members and others and prepare a report for publication.

SEC. 6. The President shall decide upon the number of members to constitute each committee, and shall appoint such additional committees as may from time to time be required.

ARTICLE IV. ELECTIONS AND EXPULSIONS

SEC. 1. All elections shall be by ballot. Except as hereinafter provided in this Article, Officers shall be elected for one-year terms and Councillors shall be elected for three-year terms.

SEC. 2. Nominations to Active Membership shall be made in writing, shall state the qualifications of the candidates, and shall be presented to the Secretary at least two weeks prior to the Club meeting at which the balloting is to occur. A candidate shall be entitled to have his name presented for election provided that he shall have received the endorsement of at least two-thirds of the Members of Council present at a Council meeting attended by a quorum. Elections to Active Membership shall take place at the first meeting held in each of the months of November, December and March. The affirmative vote of at least three-quarters of the Fellows and Active Members present at the balloting shall be necessary for election.

SEC. 3. Nominations of Fellows, Corresponding Members, and Honorary Members, shall be presented to the Secretary at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting of the Club. Elections of Fellows, Corresponding Members,

and Honorary Members, shall take place at the annual meeting. The affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the Fellows and Active Members present at the balloting shall be necessary for election.

SEC. 4. The Nominating Committee, at the annual meeting of the Club, shall present nominations for the five offices and the positions of Councillors whose terms expire with that meeting. Additional nominations may be made by Fellows and Active Members present. The affirmative vote of at least three-quarters of the Fellows and Active Members present at the balloting shall be necessary for election as an Officer or as a Councillor. Officers and Councillors shall be eligible to succeed themselves.

SEC. 5. At the time of the adoption of these By-Laws and the Constitution which these By-Laws accompany, six Councillors shall be elected; two to serve for one year, two to serve for two years, and two to serve for three years. As the term of each Councillor expires, a successor shall be elected for a term of three years.

SEC. 6. Any member may be expelled from the Club on satisfactory evidence that he is an improper person to be connected therewith. He shall have the privilege of a hearing and representation before action is taken. Such expulsion to be valid shall require a vote in favor of expulsion of at least three-quarters of the Fellows and Active Members present at a regular stated meeting attended by a quorum. Not less than one month's notice of the proposed action shall be given to all Fellows and Active Members and to the member accused.

SEC. 7. When a vacancy occurs in the Council, a nomination to fill the unexpired term shall be made by the Council and an election to fill the vacancy shall be held at a regular stated meeting of the Fellows and Active Members. Additional nominations may be made by Fellows and Active Members present. The affirmative vote of at least three-quarters of the Fellows and Active Members present at the balloting shall be necessary for election.

ARTICLE V. FEES AND ASSESSMENTS

SEC. 1. The annual membership fee for Fellows and Active Members shall be two dollars. The fee shall be due and payable at the annual meeting, except in the case of a new Active Member elected in March, who shall pay his first annual membership fee at the time of his entrance into Active Membership. Active Members elected in November and December shall not be liable for the annual membership fee for the calendar year in which they are elected.

SEC. 2. Corresponding and Honorary Members shall not be subject to dues of any kind.

SEC. 3. No Fellow or Active Member one year in arrears for dues shall take part in the meetings of the Club or Council.

SEC. 4. The names of Fellows and Active Members two years in arrears for dues shall be dropped from the list of members, providing that they have been twice notified in writing of their indebtedness by the Treasurer and their attention has been called to this By-Law.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

SEC. 1. The regular stated meetings of the Club shall be held at 8:00 P.M. on the first and third Thursdays in each month from October to May, inclusive, at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia or other place selected by the Council. The Annual Meeting of the Club shall be the first stated meeting of January.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the Club or Council may be called by the President with the approval of three Fellows or Active Members.

SEC. 3. Ten Fellows and Active Members shall constitute a quorum for a business meeting of the Club.

SEC. 4. Each meeting of the Club shall consist of a business session and a scientific session. The business session shall be open to Fellows and Active Members only.

SEC. 5. Meetings of the Council shall be held at 7:30 P.M. immediately preceding the regular stated meetings of the Club. Six members of Council shall constitute a quorum.

SEC. 6. The order of business at the regular stated meetings shall be as follows:

Business Session.

Minutes of last business session
Nomination of Officers and Members
Election

Scientific Session.

Minutes of last Scientific Session
Reports of Committees or Announcements
General Field Notes (30 minutes)
Stated Subject of the Meeting
Other communications
Adjournment

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these By-Laws to be effective shall require the affirmative vote of at least three-quarters of the Fellows and Active Members present at a regular stated meeting attended by a quorum. Such amendments shall not be valid unless they shall have been submitted at a preceding regular stated meeting attended by a quorum, and unless notice of the proposed amendments and of the meeting at which they are to be acted upon shall have been mailed to all Fellows and Active Members.