

WAGGA WAGGA ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

BY-LAWS

The following By-Laws were made and confirmed at the Annual General Meeting of the Society on 16th February 1994, and revised at the Wagga Wagga Orchid Society Annual General Meeting February 2012, and are effective therefrom.

By-laws may be amended at any general meeting after one months notice, by a 2/3 majority. Amendments are to be recorded in a master copy kept by the secretary.

1. DEFINITION

For the purpose of these By-Laws:-

The Society = The Wagga Wagga Orchid Society Inc.

The Secretary = The Secretary of Wagga Wagga Orchid Society Inc.

AOC = Australian Orchid Council.

OSNSW.Ltd. = The Orchid Society Of New South Wales Limited.

2. MEMBERSHIP

There shall be the following classes of Members

(a) Patron, to be a person of high standing in the community and have an interest in orchids. They shall be entitled to free membership and all the rights of an Ordinary Member. The patron shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting.

(b) Ordinary Members, who shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of membership of the Society.

(c) Honorary Members, may be awarded by the committee to any person interested in orchid culture and the Wagga Wagga Orchid Society Inc. Honorary members shall not be required to pay any subscription and shall not be entitled to vote at meetings or hold any office in the Society. They may vote for the Popular Vote at monthly meetings, and at the request of the Chairperson, take part in discussions.

(d) Life Members, shall be members elected by the Committee of the Society and shall thereafter be entitled to all the privileges and subject to all the duties and obligations of membership without paying the annual subscription.

Only members who have given outstanding service to the Society for a period of not less than ten (10) years, or who have made some outstanding advance in Orchid Culture shall be eligible for this award.

(e) Family Members, being spouse or children under the age of eighteen (18) years, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of membership. They shall only receive between them one copy of each monthly "Newsletter".

(f) Associate Members, shall be a non—member spouse or a member of the family of a member. Associate members shall be entitled to attend all General Meetings of the Society and to vote for the Popular Vote at Monthly Meetings and at the request of the Chairperson, to take part in discussions. They shall not be entitled to vote at any Meeting, or to any privileges of the Society.

(g) New Members: Application is to be made for membership on official forms and be proposed and seconded by 2 club members. When applicant is accepted and becomes financial, he/she is to issued with a Club Badge and a copy of the By-Laws at a general meeting.

3. FINANCES.

The Hon. Treasurer shall receive all money payable to the Society and pay the same into such bank to the credit of the Society as the Committee may from time to time direct, and keep correct accounts and books showing the financial affairs of the Society, present a Statement of Receipts and Expenditures at each Committee Meeting, and have an audited Account and Balance Sheet of the Society ready for inspection by the Members at the Annual General Meeting.

PETTY CASH ACCOUNTS.

The Secretary and Officer in Charge of the trading table may operate a Petty Cash Account up to Sixty dollars (\$60.00).

4. BENCHING OF ORCHID PLANTS

For the purposes of exhibiting in monthly competitions, or shows staged by the Society each member shall be deemed as being an exhibitor in one of the following classes but may move from a class to another class as hereafter provided or at the direction of the committee.

A member remains in the class in which he/she first exhibits in each year for the whole of the calendar year, unless the Committee otherwise directs.

(a) Novice Exhibitor is a member of the Society who has not won the Annual Competition for Monthly benching in the Novice Section of the Society, the Grand Champion, Reserve Champion or Point Score at any show that has been judged by a recognised judge as designated by the OSNSW. Ltd. or the A.O.C., or may advance after approval by the Committee or by self appointment.

(b) Open Exhibitor is one not designated by rule 4(a) as a Novice exhibitor, or any exhibitor who is a member of a recognised Orchid Club, but not a member of the Society. Members who hold membership in more than one Orchid Society but are not regular in benching at the monthly meeting shall exhibit in the open section.

5. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscription shall be for Ordinary Membership or Family Membership as set by the new Committee elected at the A.G.M. and run from July of that year.

6. COMMITTEE

(a) Shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee to consist of:-

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
plus up to a maximum of 6 Ordinary Members

They are responsible for the smooth and functional running of the society as set down in these By-Laws and the rules of incorporation.

(b) A Welfare Officer may be appointed by the Committee and may be an ordinary member or a committee member.

7. PROPERTY

Any article which is the property of the Society shall be duly registered in an appropriate book, to be kept by the Public Officer, and record the place of the article and who is responsible for it, and to be presented to the members when called upon.

Property may be disposed of by a vote of a general meeting after due notice. This does not include small items e.g. the Trading Table.

8. LIBRARY

(a) The Library shall be under the control of the librarian and all members shall comply with his/her requirements.

(b) No Member shall remove any book or printed matter from the Library without the consent of the Librarian and the giving of such form of receipt as may be required by the Librarian.

(c) Any member taking out any book, magazine or printed matter shall return same to the Librarian at the following regular General Meeting. Any member failing to comply with these instructions shall be reported to the Committee who shall decide what action should be taken.

9. JUDGING

(a) Monthly Benching — Judging shall be carried out by any member or members nominated by the meeting chairperson.

Point Scoring For Monthly Benching:

In both the Open and Novice Sections the following points are to be awarded:—

- (i) One point for each orchid benched in the Novice Section.
- (ii) Three points for each first place awarded
- (iii) Two points for each second place awarded
- (iv) One point for each third place awarded.
- (v) Three points for Popular Vote.

Popular vote by the Members, is taken from either the Open or Novice Class. If more than one orchid is awarded the same number of points, three points awarded to the owner of each orchid chosen.

No plants are to be benched for points unless they have been owned and in the possession of the exhibitor for at least six months. Any plants may be benched on the exhibition only table for general interest.

Only healthy plants are to be benched, suspect plants may be rejected by the officer in charge.

Annual Benching Competition:

Annual perpetual Trophies are awarded to the members with the highest points in both the Open and Novice Sections at each Annual General Meeting.

The Committee contributes a sum of prize money to every member who has benched orchids during the year. The money is divided up in proportion to the number of points accumulated in both the Open and Novice Sections.

(b) Major Shows - The Senior Judge is to be a qualified Judge as designated by the OSNSW.Ltd. or the AOC. and to be allocated by the Registrar of Judging from the OSNSW.Ltd. or the AOC. He may be assisted by other Judges or Associate Judges allocated by the OSNSW.Ltd.or the AOC.

No Judge or Associated Judge who is a member of the Wagga Wagga Orchid Society Inc. may act as a Senior Judge or on the judging panel while judging any Show organised by the Wagga Wagga Orchid Society Inc.

(c) Show Marshall - The Show Marshall shall take complete charge of all arrangements connected with the benching, setting up and judging of plants at each show, along with the recording of all prizes allocated and the issue of all appropriate artefacts, shields, banners, etc. The Show Marshall shall allocate any duties to any member to assist him/her in this task.

(d) Award judging - Award Judging can only be carried out at a Show organised by the Society when a panel of Seven Judges are present from the OSNSW. Ltd. or the AOC., under those rules set out by the OSNSW. Ltd. or the AOC. Otherwise plants are to be nominated in the normal manner. Champion Native Orchids are eligible to be nominated for the Ira Butler Award.

10. (a) SHOWS

(i) All shows shall operate according to official schedules approved by the Committee of the Society, annually.

(ii) All prizes shall be granted subject to the provisions of the By- Laws and official schedules.

(iii) Objections to the granting of Prizes - any member may raise an objection to the granting of any Prize, providing the objection is rendered in writing together with his/her reasons - to the Committee within seven days from the Show. The Committee shall make its decision at the Committee Meeting following the Show. In the event of any such objection being sustained, the Committees decision shall be final.

10. (b) Special Trophies: To Be Awarded to Wagga Wagga Orchid Society Members Only.

(i) Cec Willis Trophy.

The Cec Willis Trophy is to be awarded at the spring show to a member who has exhibited the best Orchid plant in the show, in either section.

(ii) Gordon Hansen Trophy

This is to be awarded to the open exhibitor with the most points at the show as per By—Law 9.

(iii) Geoff Rapley Trophy

This is to be awarded to the novice exhibitor with the most points at the show as per By—Law 9.

(iv) AOC Culture Trophy.

This Trophy is awarded to a member who shows outstanding culture, of a particular exhibit

(v) Ron Marmont Trophy

This Trophy is awarded to a member who shows the best Orchid seedling.

11. MEETINGS

(a) **Regular General Meetings** - Regular General Meetings shall be held each month at a time and a place allocated by the Committee. The purpose of these meetings is to further the understanding and interest in orchids, rather than deal with the business of the Society which is the responsibility of the Committee. Orchid plants may be benched for points at all meetings, except as directed by the committee.

(b) **Committee Meetings** - Committee meetings to be held each month at a time and place allocated by the Committee or as deemed necessary by the committee. The Committee shall deal with all business necessary for the running of the Society.

(c) **Annual General Meeting** - The A.G.M. is to be held on the first meeting in February and to be followed by a regular General Meeting of the Society.

(d) **Extra Ordinary Meetings**- Extra Ordinary General meetings may be called by a vote of 2/3rds of the members or Committee meetings 2/3rds of the committee.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nomination of candidates for election as Office Bearers of the Society shall be in writing with the signature of the candidate and two other Members. If more than one candidate is nominated for an Office, a secret ballot is to be held by all members of the Society present.

12. INCORPORATION

The legal entity of the Society is laid down by the "Association Incorporation Act, 1948" as approved on the 16th day of November, 1990 with Registered Number Y11273-01. Certificate of Incorporation is to be held by the Public Officer who shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting.

The registered name of the Society is Wagga Wagga Orchid Society Incorporated.

13. SALES BENCH.

The Society may conduct a sales bench at each regular meeting and at the Spring Show. Members may have orchids or equipment sold for them at this sales bench. The Society charges 10% of the sale price at monthly meeting and 10% at the Spring Show. Plants must be disease free and established or bare rooted. Plants must be labeled with the growers name, description of plant and price required.

Items purchased by the Society for re-sale shall be sold to at least cover the cost outlaid. A list of these items shall be held by the sales bench officer.

CLUB AUCTION.

All plants submitted for auction shall be healthy, disease free and well established plants. A charge of 10% applies. Auctioneer has the right to remove any plant from sale.

14. MERIT AWARD - Awarded to any member who has made an outstanding contribution to the Society. This award to be voted on by the existing Merit Award Recipients.

15. FOUNDATION MEMBERS.

Those present at the Inaugural Meeting which was held on 7th May, 1985 were:-

Mr. & Mrs. V. Elmes
Mr. C. Willis, Pres. Corrimal Orchid Soc.
Mr. & Mrs. D. Gyles
Mr. G. Norris
Mr. T. Wood
Mr. C. Walkden
Mr. J. Cosier
Mr. N. De La Rue
Mrs. J. Ashford
Mrs A. Muller
Mrs. V. Clarke
Mrs. L. Burgess
Mr. T. Nugent
Mr. & Mrs. K. Cox
Mr. P. Tutty
Mrs. V. Beattie
Mr. D. Beattie, Pres. Griffith Orchid Soc.
Mr. & Mrs. P. Rafferty
Mr. M. North
Mrs. L. Taber
Miss. N. Ashford