



Toronto District Beekeepers Association Constitution

ARTICLE 1: Name

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be Toronto District Beekeepers Association (TDBA).

Section 2: This organization shall be recognized as an official Association of the Ontario Beekeepers Association (OBA).

ARTICLE 2: Objectives

Section 1: Provide educational opportunities for members to further their understanding of all aspects of beekeeping.

Section 2: Promote cooperation, share information, work together, and mentor new members.

Section 3: Serve as an ambassador to the general public to educate and emphasize the importance of honeybees.

Section 4: The Club is a not for profit corporation.

Section 5: Any financial gain made by the Club shall be used to further promote the above objectives, and shall not be used for direct or indirect gain of its Members, either individually or collectively.

ARTICLE 3: Members

Section 1: Membership in Toronto District Beekeepers Association is open to anyone who is interested in honeybees and who pays the annual dues to the Treasurer.

Section 2: All paid members have the right to vote on official TDBA business matters.

Section 3: Professional conduct is required at all meetings. Individuals who act otherwise may be asked to leave by the presiding officer.

ARTICLE 4: Officers

Section 1: Officers of TDBA shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director and Program Chairperson. Officers shall hold office from January 1 through December 31 of each year.

Section 2: TDBA officers shall be members in good standing who are interested in beekeeping and who are age 18 or older. It is highly recommended that they be members of the OBA.

Section 3: Each year, the Nomination Committee shall present a slate of proposed officers at the November meeting, or at the last meeting of the year. Prior to voting, the presiding officer shall call for additional nominations from the floor. All nominations from the floor, if any, shall be added to the proposed slate of officers. No person shall be elected to any office without his/her consent, and all proposed officers shall be members of TDBA.

Section 4: Voting shall be done by a show of hands if there are no additional nominations from the floor. Voting shall be done by written ballot if there are any nominations from the floor.

Section 5: There are no limits to the number of terms an officer may serve, but each officer shall be re-nominated and re-elected each year by following the election procedures specified in this article. In the event an office becomes vacant during the year, the Nominating Committee shall propose another member to serve the remainder of the term. The proposed officer shall be approved by a majority vote at the next regular meeting.

Section 6: Some officer functions may be combined if limited membership makes it necessary. If one person serves in multiple positions, he/she will perform the functions of each position.

Section 7: Volunteers including Officers may not in any way financially profit or benefit in other ways from Society activities, nor may they be paid for their services.

ARTICLE 5: Membership Dues

Section 1: Annual dues shall be determined by a majority vote of the Association membership and shall be due January 1 of each year. New members may join the Association at any time during the year by paying the full annual dues.

Section 2: Prior members who fail to pay the annual dues for the current year shall be dropped from the membership roll on March 31. Membership may be restored by paying the current year's dues.

Section 3: Membership in the Ontario Beekeepers Association is encouraged, but not required. Membership dues to the OBA shall be paid directly to the OBA.

ARTICLE 6: Meetings

Section 1: Regular TDBA meetings shall be scheduled monthly and shall be held on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. (except where the first Monday of the month is a holiday, then the meeting will be held on the second Monday of the month), unless otherwise changed. If the location or time must be changed, the changes shall be approved by a majority vote of the members.

Section 2: Meeting information shall be made available to the public, and visitors shall be invited to attend.

Section 3: Special meetings shall be scheduled by a majority vote of the members and may include field days, social events, etc.

ARTICLE 7: Committees

Section 1: The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Program Chairperson, Director, and the immediate Past President. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to conduct business on behalf of TDBA when it is not in session. Activities and expenditures proposed by the Executive Committee shall be approved by the members at the next meeting.

Section 2: The Audit Committee shall consist of three TDBA members. The President shall recommend a Chairperson, who must be approved by the membership. The Chairperson will, in turn, select two additional members. The Audit Committee shall periodically audit the books of the Treasurer. Audits must be done in January of each year or any other time the Audit Committee deems necessary. All Audit Committee results shall be presented to the membership at the next regular meeting.

Section 3: The Nominating Committee shall consist of three TDBA members. The President shall recommend a Chairperson, who must be approved by the membership. The Chairperson will, in turn, select two additional members. The Nominating Committee shall submit a slate of proposed officers at the November meeting each year.

Section 4: The President shall appoint Special Committees to conduct various TDBA activities as required. Some of these activities will include, but not be limited to, the organization of field days and the Beginners Beekeeping Classes.

ARTICLE 8: Quorum

Section 1: For regular TDBA meetings, those members present shall constitute a quorum for transacting official business.

Section 2: A quorum for the Executive Committee shall consist of two-thirds (2/3) of the committee members.

ARTICLE 9: Officer Duties

- Section 1: The President shall preside at all meetings of the TDBA. The President shall initiate committees, handle officer vacancies as needed, and perform other duties as required. The President will be authorized to make deposits and disburse funds should the Treasurer be unable to perform those duties.
- Section 2: The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President when the President is absent. The Vice President shall serve as custodian of all property belonging to TDBA and maintain accurate records with all receipts, titles, and other documents as proof of ownership.
- Section 3: The Secretary shall record the minutes of each regular meeting and other special meetings and present them to the membership for approval at the next regular meeting. The Secretary shall maintain accurate files for membership records, meeting minutes, and all communications including correspondence and publications. The Secretary shall assist the President and Vice President with communications between the public and TDBA.
- Section 4: The Treasurer shall collect and disburse all monies for the TDBA. Purchases and expenditures shall be approved by the membership prior to payment. The Treasurer shall maintain accurate financial records, showing details for all receipts and disbursements and present a report to the membership at each regular meeting. In December of each year, after all TDBA business has been completed, the Treasurer shall close the financial books and prepare a written report, which shall be provided to the TDBA members at the regular April meeting. The Treasurer shall work with the Audit Committee to provide the necessary financial information and answer any questions. In addition, the Treasurer shall assist the Secretary with membership records.
- Section 5: The Program Chairperson shall work with the President and Vice President to arrange for regular meeting programs. The Program Chairperson will assist with audiovisual equipment and other items that may be required for programs. In addition, the Program Chairperson shall assist as required with meeting location arrangements.
- Section 6: The Director shall work with the Executive committee on items specifically defined by the Executive committee. The Director shall assist the Executive committee with activities defined for the year.

ARTICLE 10: Amendments

Section 1: Any article or any section of this Constitution and Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting upon the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) vote by the members present. All proposed amendments shall be presented to the Executive Committee for their recommendation and shall be presented in writing to the entire membership at least 30 days before voting.

ARTICLE 11: Distribution of Assets upon Dissolution

Section 1: Upon the time of dissolution of the TDBA, assets shall be distributed by the Executive Committee, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all debts and obligations, to the Ontario Beekeepers Association.

ARTICLE 12: Repealing Clause

Section 1: Upon acceptance by vote, this Constitution and Bylaws of the Toronto District Beekeepers Association supersedes all previous Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2: This Constitution and Bylaws were read and adopted by two-thirds (2/3) vote by the members present at the following monthly meeting:

Meeting date: June 6, 2016

Meeting location: Kortright Centre, Vaughan, Ontario

Co-Presidents: Paul de van der Schueren and James Murray

Vice President:

Secretary: Katherine McGillivray