



Pine Rivers Orchid Society Inc.

ByLaws

2023

1. Meetings

- (a) General meetings of the society will be held on the third Tuesday of each month excepting December.
- (b) The Annual General Meeting of the society will be held on the third Tuesday of September.
- (c) The Management Committee will meet at times and places as determined by the committee prior to, and as close as possible to, the General Meeting.

2 Dress Code

At all meetings and functions, and when representing the society, a minimum standard of dress will apply, namely:

- (a) Footwear must be always worn.
- (b) Clothing must be neat, clean and respectable.
- (c) Members will be encouraged to purchase and wear the official society shirt or blouse.

3 Code of Conduct

- (a) Members shall treat each other, guests and visitors in a friendly, courteous and respectful manner.
- (b) Members shall respect the rights of other members to express their point of view without fear of personal attack.
- (c) Meetings and gatherings of the society shall be free of harassment and discrimination.
- (d) Conflicts of interest will be avoided.
- (e) Members are to participate in the activities of the society in a safe manner.
- (f) Members shall always act in the best interests of the society.

4 Official Publication

The official publication of the society will be the '*Pine Rivers Orchid Society Inc Newsletter*' which will be published monthly excepting December.

5 Roles and Responsibilities

President

The president is responsible for the leadership, direction and coordination of the activities of the society. In addition to the President's responsibilities cited in the constitution the President shall:

- (a) Chair all meetings attended.
- (b) Ensure the effective governance of the society.
- (c) Act as a signatory for the society in all legal and financial purposes.
- (d) Serve as official spokesperson for the society when required.
- (e) Oversee the development and implementation of initiatives and activities that further the aims and objectives of the society.

Vice President

The Vice President shall act for the President when required.

Secretary

The functions of the Secretary are cited at section 16 of the constitution.

Treasurer

The responsibilities of the Treasurer are detailed within the society's constitution and include, but are not limited to: -

- (a) maintaining an accurate record of all receipts and expenditure of the society in the appropriate format.
- (b) receive all monies, including membership subscriptions paid to the society and issue receipts as necessary in the name of the society.
- (c) pay all accounts presented to the society in a timely manner.
- (d) prepare and present a written financial statement for each Management Committee meeting.
- (e) prepare financial statements for presentation at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with the Act.

6 Affiliation

The Management Committee may approve affiliation with, or accept affiliation from, other orchid societies, councils, or bodies with similar objects. The Management Committee shall approve any fees associated with such affiliations.

7 Plant/Pot Numbers

Members will be issued with a unique 'Pot' number which will be used to identify the member and the member's orchids. The 'Pot' number will be issued by the Secretary and recorded in the Register of Members.

8 Ownership of Plants

All plants tabled for judging and competition at meetings or shows are required to have been in the possession of the member for a minimum period of six months prior to the event.

9 Plant Judging

- (a) Judging of plants will be by Australian Orchid Council (AOC) accredited judges, or other persons appointed by the Management Committee. If for any reason no judges are present the President or the President's delegate may select members to carry out the judging duties. At each meeting a steward will accompany the judges to correctly record all decisions made.
- (b) The categories to be judged are as determined by the Management Committee.

- (c) The points to be allocated in each category are:
- 1st = 5 points
 - 2nd = 3 points
 - 3rd = 2 points
- (d) A subsection is to be created for each genus (e.g. cattleya, vanda, oncidium etc) plus native hybrids represented by four or more plants. Points are to be allocated to each genus in accordance with (c) above. The winning member in each category will receive an expenditure voucher to be used at the PROS sales table. The value of the voucher will be as determined by the Management Committee.
- (e) The balance of plants not numerically forming an individual genus sub-section will be placed together to form a final sub-section of 'Any other genus (including native hybrids).
- (f) The judges are to also select the:
- Overall Judges Choice winner.
 - Best Specimen Plant.
 - Best novice grower's plant.
- (g) Record of points awarded (as calculated above) to each member will be kept for each financial year and the member with the highest point score will be recognised at the Annual General Meeting.

10 Shows

- a) The society shall conduct shows as determined from time to time by the Management Committee.
- b) The implementation of shows will be managed by the Show Coordinator.
- c) The rules governing shows and the show schedule will be as approved by the Management Committee and published prior to the show.
- d) Competitive entry to shows conducted by the society shall be open only to financial members of the society.
- e) Non-competitive displays by financial members, other societies, or any person or persons may be allowed at shows at the discretion of the Management Committee.
- f) Entry in all competitive shows or mini shows conducted by the society shall be in either the open or novice section.
- g) Conditions governing the entry of blooms in competitive shows or displays shall be in accordance with the requirements contained in the schedule pertaining to that activity.

11 Show Judging

There must be more than three plants tabled in any one section (as outlined 10 above) for the judging of 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize. In the case where only three plants are tabled 1st and 2nd prize only will be awarded, except in the case of exceptional plant quality when a third prize can also be offered. In the new grower's section the judges may use their discretion in awarding all plants tabled.

12 Plant sales

- a) Plant sales conditions for shows and other society events will be as published and approved by the Management Committee.
- b) Only financial members of the society, who have submitted one plant for judging will be eligible to lodge an unlimited number of plants for sale at shows or other society events.
- c) Plants must be clean, free from pests and diseases, virus free and well established. Fire ant regulations must be complied with.
- d) The Management Committee will have the right to refuse any plant for sale that doesn't meet the conditions of sale.
- e) Unnamed plants may not be offered for sale unless in flower.
- f) Neither the Society nor its agents shall accept responsibility for theft, destruction of plants, loss, or damage of any kind to plants submitted for sale.
- g) The society shall deduct a fee from the sale of individual plants sold at shows. The fee will be an amount determined by the Management Committee.
- h) Members can offer up to a maximum of 5 plants for sale at general meetings. Such plants will not attract a society sales fee and the society accepts no responsibility for the member's sale plants.

13 Delegates

Delegates appointed by the Management Committee to represent the society at events or functions are bound by the decision of members of the society.

14 New Growers

- a) To qualify for New Grower status, the new member must have not won a Champion Award at any competitive orchid competition held by an orchid society and must satisfy the Management Committee by nominating the number of orchids they own, the number of years they have been growing orchids, if they belong(ed) to any other orchid society and state their status in that society.

- b) A New Grower may remain as such for a period to be determined by the Management Committee. Every New Grower will have their status reviewed one month prior to the Annual General Meeting to determine whether the member concerned will remain a New Grower or be elevated to Open status.
- c) A New Grower who wins any Champion Award other than the New Growers Champion at any competitive competition at any orchid society meeting or shows will qualify for Open status at future competitions of this society.
- d) Any New Grower who intentionally competes in the Open section of any competition shall disqualify themselves as a future New Grower unless there is no New Grower/Novice Section provided.
- e) Where a New Grower is directed to compete in an Open section by any other society rules, other than Pine Rivers, the New Grower must, in writing, notify the Management Committee within one month of the reason or the direction, the Management Committee will then review the members status and will advise the outcome in writing.
- f) Progression from New Grower status is to be advised in writing by the Secretary to the member/s concerned.

15. Membership Fees

The annual subscription fees shall be reviewed by the Management Committee prior to each March General Meeting, and a recommendation shall be submitted to that, or an earlier General Meeting for determination by members. All subscriptions shall become due and payable on the first day of July each year. If a member's annual subscription has not been paid by the first day of November, the member may be deemed unfinancial and unable to enjoy the benefits of membership.

New members accepted at or after the Committee meeting immediately prior to the March General Meeting shall be credited with financial membership for the period ending 30th June of the following year.

Notes

