



MID-ATLANTIC KOI CLUB BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

Name, Purpose and Geographic Area of the Organization

- A. The name of the organization is Mid-Atlantic Koi Club.
- B. The purpose of the organization is to create, promote and enlarge the hobby of keeping, breeding, appreciating and exhibiting carp, a fresh water fish also known as Koi, Nishikigoi or Japanese fancy colored carp; to disseminate information about the hobby to the membership and public; to engage in educational social activities related to the hobby; and to acquire and own such property as may be necessary for any or all of the foregoing purposes.
- C. The general geographic area served by the Mid-Atlantic Koi Club shall include the states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia and the District of Columbia; however, there shall be no residency requirement for membership.

ARTICLE II

Membership

- A. Any person who has an interest in koi culture is eligible for membership in the organization. Upon application and payment of the dues as set forth in Article IV, the applicant will become a member in good standing of the Mid-Atlantic Koi Club.
- B. A member may voluntarily withdraw, or a member may be expelled by a majority of the members present at any regular or called special meeting for violation of the bylaws, for non-payment of dues or for conduct deemed detrimental to the organization.
- C. Membership shall not be transferable, and membership and voting rights shall terminate upon withdrawal, expulsion or death of a member.

ARTICLE III

Fiscal Year

The fiscal year and the year for the payment and collection of annual dues shall begin on the first day of June of each year and end on the last day of May of the next succeeding year.

ARTICLE IV

Annual Dues

Dues as set by the Executive Committee are payable annually during the month of June, and privileges and voting rights shall be suspended for all members from the same household or family for which dues for the current fiscal year have not been paid by June 30 of each year. The dues for new members applying after the beginning of a new fiscal year shall be prorated on a monthly basis with the month of application counted as a full month. Those joining in January or after are also asked to join for the following fiscal year.

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ARTICLE V

Chapters

- A. The Executive Committee shall, from time to time and at its discretion, designate chapters of the organization, although any member may attend meetings in any chapter.
- B. Each chapter shall have chapter Vice-President(s) nominated each year by that chapter and elected each year in accordance with Article VIII, who shall perform the duties as set forth in Article IX, C.
- C. Each chapter, at the beginning of each club year (or as soon as possible thereafter), shall submit a tentative list of upcoming meeting dates, meeting topics and other events. The chapters, as much as possible, should coordinate activities with the other chapters' Vice-Presidents in order to minimize scheduling conflicts with MAKC as well as other chapters' meetings and events.
- D. Regardless of the number of chapter Vice-Presidents, each chapter shall have one vote on the Executive Committee.
- E. Each chapter shall have the following rights and privileges, including, but not limited to, access to the newsletter for announcements, to club equipment and sales supplies, to Treasury funds to reimburse local chapter meeting/function expenses as approved by the Executive Committee, and to donated items to be used for raffles and fund raising activities. Each chapter shall in as much as possible, try to raise funds through local fundraising activities to offset their expenses. Any funds raised by the chapter shall be deposited in the MAKC Treasury; any equipment purchased is the property of the MAKC. As directed, each chapter shall submit in writing a proposed budget to the Treasurer for the upcoming fiscal year.
- F. New Chapters
1. In order to form a chapter, a group of MAKC members shall submit a proposal to the Executive Board Advisory Committee. In this proposal, they should state the need for the additional chapter, chapter goals, and chapter philosophies as they relate to MAKC's goals and philosophies. These goals should be for the benefit of MAKC as a whole and enhance management of the entire organization.
 2. The proposal shall be distributed to all Executive Board Advisory Committee members. The President and the Executive Board Advisory Committee, in consultation with the chapter Vice-Presidents, shall vote; a majority is needed to establish a new chapter.
 3. If accepted, that chapter shall appoint a temporary chapter Vice-President(s) to direct the chapter until the next regularly scheduled election.
- G. A chapter may withdraw its chapter status by requesting withdrawal in writing from the Executive Committee. Withdrawal should only be requested with the consent of the majority of the members after a vote taken at an announced special chapter meeting called by the chapter Vice-President(s) for that purpose. If a chapter withdraws, members still continue to enjoy all the benefits afforded to all MAKC members. Chapter status may be withdrawn by the President, in consultation with the Executive Board Advisory Committee, at any time.
- H. Any other chapter matters not covered in this Article will be brought before the President.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings

- A. The annual meeting of the membership for receiving the annual reports of the retiring President, Secretary, Treasurer, and committee chairpersons, and for the installation of newly elected officers shall

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be held each year after annual elections. Notice of the annual meeting shall be submitted in writing to the membership at least ten (10) days prior to such meeting.

B. The frequency and geographic locations of chapter meetings of the organization shall be determined by the chapter Vice-Presidents in consultation with the Executive Committee. The date, time, place and written notice thereof shall be given to the members at least ten (10) days prior to each chapter meeting.

C. Special meetings may be called by the President at any time and shall be called at the written request of at least five (5) members in good standing. The President shall set the date, time, place and agenda of such special meeting and cause written notice thereof to be given to all members at least ten (10) days prior to such meeting. The business conducted at a special meeting shall be limited to the matters set forth in the agenda sent to the members with the notice.

D. Written notice of all meetings shall be hand delivered, mailed or included in an official publication of the organization which is delivered or mailed to the membership.

E. Each paid membership has only one vote. Voting by absentee ballot shall be allowed at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

F. The elected officers of the organization, along with the chairmen of any standing committees shall comprise the Executive Committee which shall meet when called by the President

ARTICLE VII

Officers

A. The officers of the organization shall be that of President, Vice-President, Chapter Vice-President(s), Secretary and Treasurer who shall serve for a term of one year from their installation at the annual meeting each year until the next succeeding annual meeting.

B. A vacancy in any office shall be filled for the remainder of the term by appointment by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII

Nomination and Election of Officers

A. The President shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of three (3) persons including the chairperson which shall present a slate of candidates for each office. At chapter meetings in April, the slate of the nominating committee shall be received into nomination followed by any additional nominations for the offices from the floor. At chapter meetings in May votes shall be cast by secret ballot for each office. Each member family in good standing may cast only one vote for each office. The nominee for each office receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected to that office. In the event there is a tie vote for an office, votes shall be recast at the annual meeting until one nominee receives the highest number of votes.

B. All officers shall be installed by the retiring President at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE IX

Duties of the Officers

A. The duties of the President are:

1. To preside at the annual meeting;

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2. To create committees as necessary to assist in accomplishing the purpose of the organization and to appoint chairpersons and members of such committees;
3. To supervise the affairs of the organization;
4. To cause the periodic publication of a newsletter for the advancement of the purpose of the organization and to appoint and supervise an editor of such newsletter;
5. To appoint custodians of the property of the organization other than funds; and
6. To take any other action as authorized or required by these bylaws.

B. The duties of the Vice-President are:

1. To assume the duties of the President in the event of absence, withdrawal, inability or refusal to act by the President;
2. To perform the duties as from time to time may be delegated by the President;
3. To set the date, time and place of the annual meeting; and
4. To be an ex officio member of all committees other than the Executive Committee.

C. The duties of the chapter Vice-President(s) are:

1. To preside at each chapter meeting;
2. To set the time and place of each chapter meeting in consultation with the Vice-President;
3. To set the agenda and the program for each meeting;
4. To send minutes of each meeting to the Secretary and Newsletter Editor; and
5. To establish chapter standing committees as directed by the Executive Committee and any other standing committee that are necessary to carry out these duties

D. The duties of the Secretary are:

1. To cause notices to be served as required by the bylaws;
2. To keep minutes of all annual, special, chapter and Executive Committee meetings of the organization; and
3. To perform other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President.

E. The duties of the Treasurer are:

1. To collect all dues;
2. To have custody of the funds of the organization;
3. To keep regular books of account of the organization;
4. To pay pre-determined accounts as may be authorized by the membership and to pay those bills presented to and approved by the Executive Committee;
5. To prepare and submit a written, itemized report of receipts and expenditures for the past fiscal year as well as a budget for the upcoming fiscal year at the annual meeting and at any other time when directed by the President;
6. To prepare and submit all reports required by any governmental agency; and
7. To perform other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President.

ARTICLE X

Standing Committees

The chairmen of standing committees along with the Editors of the Newsletter and MAKC Directory shall be appointed by the President, in consultation with the Executive Committee, after the Annual Meeting and shall include, but not be limited to, the following committees:

A. Representative(s) to any affiliated organization[s] shall represent the Mid-Atlantic Koi Club at any meetings with this organization(s) and shall be the club's liaison with the organization(s) and its officers.

B. Membership Committee shall:

1. Cause a notice to be published in May to the current membership to renew their dues in June;

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2. Keep roster of members in good standing;
3. After acceptance of a membership application, send a new member packet which shall, at least, include a current Mid-Atlantic Koi Club Membership Directory and a copy of these bylaws;
4. Work with the Directory Editor to publish a membership roster at least once per year; and
5. Furnish a complete set of address labels to the Newsletter Editor prior to the publication of each newsletter.

C. Newsletter Editor shall:

1. Cause to be published and mailed to the membership on a regular basis a newsletter which shall contain meeting notices;
2. Include any other club news or information on koi keeping at the discretion of the editor; and
3. Submit club news to *affiliated or other publications*.

D. Directory Editor, in cooperation with the Membership Chairman, shall cause to be published and mailed to the membership at least once a year an updated membership directory.

E. Annual Show Chairman shall organize all activities relating to the annual koi show and be responsible for adhering to the budget guidelines as set by the Executive Committee for each show. The next year's Show Chairman shall be appointed each year following the show.

F. The Executive Board Advisory Committee shall be comprised of three or more past Presidents of MAKC for the purpose of advising the President on major MAKC decisions.

ARTICLE XI

Amendments to the Bylaws

A. These bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed by two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the members eligible to vote and present at the annual meeting or a special meeting of the organization.

B. A complete copy of proposed alterations or amendments to the bylaws shall be served on each member at least thirty (30) days prior to any meeting at which a vote thereon is to be taken.

ARTICLE XII

Property of the Organization

The property and funds of the organization are irrevocably dedicated to the purposes as set forth in these bylaws. In the event of the dissolution of the Mid-Atlantic Koi Club all property and funds of the organization shall be given, without condition, to non-profit organization[s] selected by the Executive Committee. No part of any earnings or assets of the Mid-Atlantic Koi Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

ARTICLE XIII

Parliamentary Authority

To the extent not in conflict with these bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order (revised) shall govern all proceedings of this organization.

(Adopted June 8, 1997)