

# **National Chinese Owl Club**

## **Constitution**

(Revised January 2025)

### **Article I Name**

This organization shall be known as the National Chinese Owl Club.

### **Article II Object**

The object of this club shall be:

- (a) To encourage the breeding and exhibiting of the Chinese Owl pigeon. To foster friendliness and good fellowship between fellow members and other breeders. To supply helpful information through printed literature and otherwise to assist in the future development and popularity of the breed.
- (b) To maintain and periodically revise the Standard of the breed recognized by the National Chinese Owl Club; this Standard to be the guide and authority in determining the standard qualities of the Chinese Owl pigeon and the placing of the awards in the show room. The picture Standard is to be open for revision every five (5) years, the written Standard to be open for revision at least every ten (10) years.
- (c) To sponsor one National show each year in connection with the annual club meeting, also one annual fall meet show, one young bird show held with the National Young Bird Show, and district shows in each of the eight (8) respective districts.

### **Article III Membership**

Membership shall be as follows:

- (a) Individual Member: Any person of good character, regardless of race, color or creed who is interested in the breeding of the Chinese Owl pigeon is eligible to membership and may become a member upon payment of the prescribed fee and agreeing to this Constitution and By-laws.
- (b) Partnership Agreement: All members of any partnership agreement must be members in good standing in the National Chinese Owl Club. No individual or partnership shall be elected to membership until after the membership fee shall have been paid.
- (c) Membership Fee: The membership fee for any individual member who is 18 years of age or older shall be \$20.00. Any individual member who is under 18 years of age shall be \$5.00 and shall be designated as a Junior Member. There shall be a fee of \$22.50 for a National Chinese Owl Club member and spouse. Said spouse shall have the right to participate in meetings and discussions, but shall not have the right to vote on By-Laws and Constitution changes, Election of Officers or changes to the Standard. This membership is designated as a Family Membership. Junior members have the same privileges as the individual members. The membership fee includes all dues to the following January 1<sup>st</sup>. The annual dues become payable on January 2<sup>nd</sup> of each year, and must be paid by the following March 1<sup>st</sup>, or the membership automatically ceases. Members in arrears for dues shall not be entitled to vote or receive bulletins or any other prizes offered by the National Chinese Owl Club for its members. Any dues received on October 1<sup>st</sup> or after will be considered dues for the following year unless the member paying the dues prefers to have these dues apply for the current year only.
- (d) Reinstatement: Any member having been dropped from the membership for non-payment of dues may, upon application to the Secretary-Treasurer, be re-instated upon payment of the annual dues for the current year.

- (e) Voting Privileges: Each member in good standing is entitled to one vote in all club matters requiring a vote.

#### **Article IV Annual Meeting and Shows**

##### Approved Meets:

- (a) Annual Meets: The club shall meet twice each year. Once at the annual show to be held with the Grand National Pigeon Association Show. The date and time of the meeting to be set by the Board of Directors. Again at the National Young Bird Show. The date and time of the meeting to be set by the Board of Directors. A "called" meeting may be held after written notice to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to said meeting. Only the Executive Committee may request a "Called Meeting".
- (b) District Meets: The places and dates of holding the district shows and meeting shall be recommended by the director in the district where the shows are to be held and approved by the President and Secretary-Treasurer.

#### **Article V Judges**

Section 1: The judge for each district show shall be approved by the Head Director of that district. The judge of the Annual Fall Meet shall be selected by at least two of the district directors where the show is to be held and be approved by the President. The Young Bird Show judge shall be elected by the members in attendance of the previous year's National Young Bird Show. The judge for the Annual NCOC meet (Grand National Show) shall be elected by ballot which is to be mailed to each paid up member. Judges are required to place not less than the top half, plus one in classes of 8 or more birds. (It is an easy matter for the lower end of the classes to be recorded in the Clerk's records as they are eliminated from these larger classes). The Reserve Champion method shall be used for official NCOC meets (shows).

Judges shall be certified as follows:

- (a) Shall be a Chinese Owl breeder, exhibitor and member of the NCOC for at least five (5) consecutive years.
- (b) Shall be nominated by two club members and the Head Director of the district in which the nominee resides, upon completion of forms to be supplied by the Certified Judge Coordinator upon request by the nominee.
- (c) Shall work at least two shows under a Certified Judge. (This means that the nominee would apprentice under two different judges of district shows or Annual Fall Meet, providing the named judges were agreeable.)
- (d) There shall be an examining panel of two, appointed by the NCOC President for each district. This panel shall be from the NCOC Certified Judges list for that district. The panel shall serve for a term of one year from the time of appointment. The panel shall only be appointed when there is a need in a given district.
- (e) Shall be examined by the afore named panel, at a show in the nominee's district or the Annual Fall Meet, National Young Bird Show or the Annual Meet (Grand National). In the event a nominee should request to be examined at the Annual Fall Meet, National Young Bird Show, or the Annual Meet (Grand National), the examining panel shall be appointed from the district in which the meet or show is being held.
- (f) The nominees shall demonstrate his or her knowledge of:
  - (1) The NCOC approved colors and patterns.
  - (2) The Points Standard – Total of 100 points.
  - (3) The disqualification factors.



- (4) That all birds shall be judged on the current NCOC written and picture Standard. (Some of us may not approve of some of the wording in the written standard or picture standard but these have been approved by vote of the NCOC membership and for this reason must be followed. If we do not like this the way it is, work toward changing it and not ignoring these points.)
- (5) By placing a five (5) bird class and explaining why the birds were placed in that order.
- (g) Upon completion, if the panel approves, they shall then sign the application and return it to the coordinator. Upon receipt of the completed application, the coordinator shall then add the nominee's name to the NCOC Certified Judges list by notifying the NCOC Secretary-Treasurer of this certification.
- (h) The Certified Judge Coordinator shall be appointed by the President and serve an unlimited length of time.
- (i) A certified judge may have their name removed by:
  - (1) Written request by the judge to the coordinator.
  - (2) Being permanently unavailable for judging assignments.
  - (3) By written notification by the President, to the Coordinator, upon written recommendation of a majority of the Board of Directors.
  - (4) Failing to be an active breeder and exhibitor of Chinese Owl pigeons for a period of three (3) years. If he or she request in writing to the coordinator within an additional two (2) year period, they shall be automatically be re-certified. After five (5) year time frame, they shall be required to do the certification procedure.

Section 2: The Secretary-Treasurer is authorized to pay the judge of any approved NCOC meet 10 cents per bird whenever the sponsoring club give the NCOC one dollar or more per bird.

## **Article VI Show Rules**

Section 1: The details of each district show shall be at the discretion of the Head Director of said district and the President of the NCOC. Rebates must be paid for the meet to qualify for Master Breeder points. Only three (3) meets (excluding the Annual Fall Show, the National Young Bird Show and the Annual Meeting Show). A meet from one district can be held at a location in another district upon agreement by the Head Director of said districts. Bids for all district meets of the Fall must be placed with the Head Director before June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Section 2: The NCOC will furnish 6/7 awards for all qualifying District shows with 75 or more Chinese Owls shown by five (5) or more exhibitors: 5 for Champion line up and 1 Champion Junior award. Also, the same for Grand National (Annual Meet), NYBS, and the Annual Fall Meet. (A reserve junior award will be awarded if three (3) or more juniors are competing.) The NCOC will furnish 4/5 awards for all qualifying Districts shows with no less than 60 and no more than 74 Chinese Owls shown by four (4) or more exhibitors. 3 for Champion line up and 1 Champion Junior award (does not apply to Grand National, NYBS, or Annual Fall meet). (A reserve junior award will be awarded if three (3) or more juniors are competing.) Award values at the discretion of the NCOC. Award values at the discretion of the NCOC.

Section 3: Any judge of a recognized National Chinese Owl Club meet or show must be certified by the NCOC and must use our adopted Standard.

Section 4: All birds regardless of age are to be seamless banded. This band must be of a recognized pigeon club or organization and size 8 in diameter or smaller. Any other band is to be removed, if possible, or taped in the case of name bands.

Section 5: All entry blanks for NCOC qualifying shows shall use the approved color classes only from the following list with no variations in terminology. All show reports are to be completed using the color order on this list (See the color descriptions for more details).

- |                |                         |                   |                      |                   |                |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. Mealy Bar   | 2. Red Check            | 3. Lavender       | 4. Cream Bar         | 5. Yellow Check   | 6. Cream       |
| 7. Blue Bar    | 8. Blue Check           | 9. Black          | 10. Silver Bar       | 11. Silver Check  | 12. Dun        |
| 13. Brown Bar  | 14. Brown Check         | 15. Brown         | 16. Khaki Bar        | 17. Khaki Check   | 18. Khaki      |
| 19. Indigo Bar | 20. Indigo Check        | 21. Andalusian    | 22. Grizzle Bar      | 23. Grizzle Check | 24. AO Grizzle |
| 25. Almond     | 26. Qualmond            | 27. Recessive Red | 28. Recessive Yellow | 29. Milky         | 30. White      |
| 31. Saddle     | 32. Body Mark/Tail Mark | 33. Baldhead      | 34. Pied             | 35. AOC           |                |

### **Article VII Quorum**

Five members in good standing shall constitute a quorum at any annual or special meeting. One officer must be present at the quorum. Five (5) members or a majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum of that body.

### **Article VIII Officers**

The officers of this club shall consist of President, Eastern Vice President, Western Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Election Commissioner, and a board of Directors of which the President shall be Chairman, Ex-Officio. The Board of Directors shall include the President, Eastern Vice President, Western Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and the head director from each of the eight representative districts.

### **Article IX Methods of Election**

Section 1: Officers shall be elected in the following manner:

- (a) All officers, with the exception of the Election Commissioner, shall be elected by mail ballots to be conducted by the Election Commissioner and the results certified to, by the President as provided in the By Laws.
- (b) The Election Commissioner shall be appointed by the President and shall not be eligible for any other office.

Section 2: The President, Vice Presidents, and Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by the members at large. The twenty-four (24) elected District Directors shall be elected from the eight (8) representative districts of the United States and Canada; three (3) directors shall be elected from each of the following districts. In electing the District Directors, only members residing in each district respectively shall vote for the directors from that district.

District Number 1: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

District Number 2: Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

District 3: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, & Wisconsin.

District 4: Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, & South Dakota.

District 5: Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, & Texas.

District 6: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, & Utah.

District 7: Eastern half of Canada

District 8: Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, & Western half of Canada.

### **Article X Terms of Office**

The President, Vice Presidents, and the Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected for a term of four (4) years. The President, Vice Presidents and District Directors to be elected on the odd number years and the Secretary-Treasurer to be elected on the even number years. All District Directors shall be elected for a term of four (4) years. All officers to serve until their successors are duly elected and installed.