

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Article 1: NAME AND OBJECT. The Society shall be called “The International Society for Behavioral Ecology” hereafter referred to as “The Society”.

The Society is to promote scientific research in behavioral ecology and to foster the integration of various related disciplines with behavioral ecology. This will be achieved through the publication of the journal Behavioral Ecology (hereafter referred to as “The Journal”) and the sponsorship of periodic scientific meetings.

Article 2: MEMBERSHIP. Any person who studies or has an interest in behavioral ecology is eligible for membership. The classes of membership will be determined by Council. All members will have equal voting rights.

Article 3: OFFICERS. The officers of The Society shall be President, President Elect, Past President, Treasurer, and Secretary. There will be a meeting of the Executive Council before each biennial scientific meeting, and the terms of Officers will start after that Council meeting. The President Elect will become President two years after being elected and will serve a term of two years as President; the President therefore may not serve two consecutive terms. At the end of the term of President, the former President will serve as Past President for a term of two years. The Secretary and Treasurer will serve terms of four years, with elections staggered to allow an overlap of two years by those officers. The Secretary and Treasurer may be re-elected.

Article 4: COUNCIL. The Council will govern The Society. The Council consists of the current officers (specified in Article 3), the current Editor-in-Chief of the Journal, the current Editor of the ISBE newsletter, and four elected Councillors (every second year, two Councillors will be elected to a four-year term). In addition, the past and upcoming congress organizers (each for a term of four overlapping years) will be *ex officio* non-voting members of the Council. The Editor-in-Chief should be elected for an initial period of four years, but can be re-elected. The Society, in partnership with Oxford University Press, publishes the Journal. The Editor-in-Chief shall determine publication policy in consultation with Council and appoint new editors in consultation with the Board of Editors. Editors of The Journal shall be appointed for a term not exceeding 5 years.

Article 5: ELECTIONS. Elections of Council members will take place by electronic ballot (or equivalent) no less than six months before the biennial meeting. The President is responsible for ensuring that the candidates meet the Society's aspirations of equity and inclusiveness. They will do that with a nominating committee comprising the President, Past President and President elect, who will organize the elections in consultation with Council. Before the biennial elections, the membership should be advised of the vacancies that are becoming available and invited to submit an expression-of-interest in one or more of the vacancies. Because some of the Society's posts involve specialised responsibilities, and there are advantages in continuity of some posts, at the discretion of the nominating committee in consultation with Council, appointment and re-appointment of the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, Editor-in-Chief and Newsletter Editor may be made without two or more candidates competing in an election.

Article 6: MEETINGS. The Society will endeavour to hold scientific and business meetings together at least once every two years. The date and location of a meeting will be approved by the Council. The Council may arrange for joint programs with related scientific groups. The local organizing committee for each meeting will plan the format in consultation with the Council or with a sub-Committee with authority delegated from Council. The budget for the meeting requires approval by the Council, and major contracts should be reviewed by a contracts subcommittee of the Council chaired by the President, and signed by the President on behalf of the Council.

Article 7: AMENDMENTS. Amendments to the Constitution, or changes in the Constitution and Bylaws, may be proposed by any member in a written communication to the Secretary. Such proposals will then be presented to the Council for a vote. If approved by a majority of the Council, such proposals will be submitted to the membership via an electronic ballot (or equivalent) at the time of the next election. A proposal will be adopted if favored by a simple majority of the members voting.

Article 8: FISCAL YEAR AND TENURE OF OFFICE. The Treasurer will maintain records on an annual basis, from 1 January to 31 December. The Treasurer will provide the Council a statement for the last preceding fiscal year by 1 July of each year.

Article 9: ORGANIZATIONAL STATUS. The International Society for Behavioral Ecology is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

BYLAWS

Article 1: DUTIES OF OFFICERS. The President will preside at society business meetings and Council meetings. The President will appoint committees as directed by the Constitution and Bylaws, and as decided by the Council. In consultation with Council, the President will organise a process to solicit expressions-of-interest and select hosts for future scientific meetings. In consultation with the Council, and in particular with the Editor-in-Chief and Treasurer, the President will be responsible for negotiation of business terms with Oxford University Press concerning the publication of the Journal.

The Secretary will facilitate the maintenance of The Society's records, including the minutes of Society business meetings and Council meetings. The Secretary will coordinate Council meetings, including the distribution of meeting agendas, and facilitate timely communication of periodic meetings, elections and other Society business to the membership.

The Treasurer will take charge of The Society's funds and other assets. The Treasurer will handle all accounts of The Society, receive The Society's income from membership dues, act as fiscal manager for any publications sponsored by The Society, make payments to individuals working on behalf of The Society, maintain records of all financial transactions, and take responsibility for filing The Society's annual income tax return.

Article 2: REMOVAL OF OFFICERS. Officers may be removed from office by a 2/3 vote of the Council, minus the officer under consideration.

Article 3: COMMITTEES. The Nominating Committee will be filled *ex officio*. The Contracts Committee will ordinarily be filled *ex officio* but if this leads to one of the members being involved with the contract in another role (for example being a member of the Local Organizing Committee), a member should be appointed to fill that role.

Other committees may be appointed by the President upon authorization by the Council.

Article 4: DISSOLUTION. Upon the dissolution of The Society, title to and all assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. In practice, The Society shall identify an exempt organization or organizations, as the membership of The Society shall deem best qualified to carry on the functions of The Society. The membership of The Society shall make this determination by a simple majority vote conducted by electronic ballot on proposals formulated by the Council. The voting shall be administered by the Secretary.

Article 5: GENERAL PROHIBITIONS. Notwithstanding any provision of the Constitution or By-laws that might be susceptible to a contrary construction:

- a) The International Society for Behavioral Ecology shall be organized and operated

exclusively for scientific, charitable, and educational purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code;

- b) no part of the net earnings of The International Society for Behavioral Ecology shall, or may, under any circumstances inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual;
- c) no substantial part of the activities of The International Society for Behavioral Ecology shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation;
- d) The International Society for Behavioral Ecology shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements) political campaigns on behalf of any candidates for public office;
- e) The International Society for Behavioral Ecology shall not be organized or operated for profit;
- f) The International Society for Behavioral Ecology shall not:
 - 1) lend any part of its income or corpus without the receipt of adequate security and a reasonable rate of interest;
 - 2) pay any compensation in excess of a reasonable allowance for salaries or other compensation for personal services actually rendered;
 - 3) make any part of its services available on preferential bases;
 - 4) make any purchases of securities or any other property for more than adequate consideration in money or money's worth;
 - 5) sell any securities or other property for less than adequate consideration in money or money's worth;
 - 6) engage in any other transaction which results in substantial diversion of its income or corpus to any officer, member of the Council or substantial contributor to The Society.

The prohibitions contained in this subsection (f) do not imply that The International Society for Behavioral Ecology may make such loans, payments, sales or purchases to anyone else, unless such authority be given by or implied by other provisions of the Constitution or Bylaws.