



**Constitution and Bylaws of the Massachusetts Cage Bird Association
(Emblem/Logo)**

**Massachusetts Cage Bird Association, Incorporated
Founded in the Year 1916**

**CONSTITUTION
ARTICLE 1**

NAME, LOCATION, CORPORATE SEAL

- 1.1 The name of the corporation is the Massachusetts Cage Bird Association, Inc.
- 1.2 The place of meeting shall be in a hall, building, or home in the state of Massachusetts, central to its members. Any change in the place of meeting will be selected by a two-thirds vote of the members assembled.
- 1.3 The Corporate Seal shall be circular in form and inscribed there-on **will be** the name of the corporation, year of its founding (1916), and the word Massachusetts.

ARTICLE 2

CORPORATE POWERS

- 2.1 The corporation shall enjoy all the privileges under the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 180 and amendments there-to relative to charitable and benevolent corporations.

ARTICLE 3

CAPITAL STOCK

- 3.1 There is to be no stock of any kind or description of shares in this corporation.

ARTICLE 4

PURPOSE OF CORPORATION

- 4.1 This corporation is organized for the purpose of **improving & promoting the** care, handling, maintenance, breeding, & **welfare** of cage birds, and the dissemination useful and helpful **avian-related** information.
- 4.2 It shall be the object of this association to promote the welfare of its members and bind together affiliation through good fellowship.
- 4.3 The association supports **efforts to preserve natural wild avian habitats, efforts to preserve avian species at risk for endangerment, and efforts to further the study of avian behavior & avian illnesses.**

ARTICLE 5

MEMBERSHIP

- 5.1 Membership in the association is open to any person with an interest in cage birds.

ARTICLE 6

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- 6.1 The **Officers** of the corporation shall consist of President, Vice **President**, Secretary, Treasurer, & Membership **Secretary**.
- 6.2 **The Board of Directors shall consist of the above 5 Officers and two (2) Trustees.**
- 6.2 **Nominations and Elections**
 - (a) Any member, in good standing, interested in serving as an officer in the association, shall notify the Secretary prior to the close of the November meeting.
 - (b) A list of candidates for office shall be published in the December newsletter.
 - (c) Voting shall be done by secret ballot at the annual meeting in December.
 - (d) All Officers and Directors shall be elected for a term of one (1) year.

ARTICLE 7

MEETINGS

- 7.1 The **Annual Meeting** of this Association shall be held at the regular **membership** meeting in December.
- 7.2 The Association shall hold meetings periodically as the members wish.
- 7.3 Special **membership** meetings may be called, any time deemed necessary in the opinion of two (2) Directors and three members, or five (5) members of the Association. **The entire membership must be given reasonable notice of such meetings.**
- 7.4 The Board of Directors shall fix the time and the method of calling their own meeting,, but must report all such meetings at the next regular meeting.

ARTICLE 8

AMENDMENTS, DISSOLUTIONS

- 8.1 Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws may be proposed at any regular meeting. Members will be notified of any proposed **Bylaw** changes at two (2) consecutive membership meetings (and/or in two (2) consecutive newsletters) and will be voted on at the **next** consecutive meeting. A vote requiring two-thirds approval of members in attendance will be required for acceptance of **Bylaw** changes.

- 8.2 Should the Association and corporation for any reason cease to exist or perform, any funds left, after proper and legal dissolution, according to law, shall be given, bequeathed, or donated to the American Federation of Aviculture.

ARTICLE 9
BYLAWS

MEMBERSHIP

- 9.1
1. **Single Membership.** Dues paid for one year, **which includes the right of the individual to hold office and to cast one vote.**
 2. **Family Membership.** Dues paid for one year, **which includes the right of two adult members of the same household to hold office & to each cast one vote.**
 3. **Junior Membership.** Dues paid for one year, for young people under the age of sixteen (16) and they have no vote.
 4. **Commercial Membership.** Dues paid for one year with no voting privileges.
 5. **Life Membership.** The Association may reward a member of the Association with Lifetime Membership for **recognition of outstanding service to the Association and with a majority vote of the members assembled at two (2) consecutive regular meetings of the Association. This category includes voting privileges.**
 6. **Complementary Membership.** **The Association may reward non-members of the Association with a Complementary Membership, for services to the Association, for 1-year, and with a majority vote of the members assembled at a regular meeting. This category does not include voting privileges.**
- 9.2 Membership shall run for the calendar year and dues paid are non-refundable. **New members joining after June, are considered paid through the following year.** Any member three months in arrears shall be dropped from the roster.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and directors, preserve order and enforce the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association. He/she shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal of the Association. He/she shall have the casting vote in the case of a tie. He/she shall appoint all committees or such other officers as may be necessary unless otherwise ordered. The President shall have the power to order the Secretary to call special meetings when requested in writing by five members in good standing and shall perform other duties as are **required of his/her** office.

VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President shall assist the President in the discharge of his/her official duties, fill the President's place in the case of absence, death, removal or resignation until such time as a President may be elected.

SECRETARY

The Secretary shall keep correct Minutes of each meeting, and read and preserve all documents. He/she shall take care of all correspondence, issue notices for special meetings, have charge of the Corporate Seal and affix the same on all official documents. **The Secretary shall prepare an agenda, or order of business, for each meeting. Said agenda will be made available to the President or Presiding Officer prior to each meeting.**

TREASURER

The Treasurer shall receive all monies and give receipt for and deposit same in bank or banks as may be designated by the Association. He/she shall keep a correct account (ledger) and provide a monthly financial statement. The previous Treasurer must turn over to the Association all monies, minus any outstanding debts and service charges, by January of the following year.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

The Membership **Secretary** shall keep records of all **current** members. He/she shall be responsible for keeping an accurate record of dues paid to date, and notify members when they are past due.

TRUSTEES

The Trustees shall have full charge of all funds willed, donated, or given to the association. It will require a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors or a five-sixths vote of the members in attendance at any regular meeting of this Association for the appropriation of money in this fund to be made. The Trustees shall **keep inventory & exact whereabouts of** all property of the Association and **shall be in charge of its safe-keeping.**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall have and exercise full control and active management of the affairs of the association and see that the wishes, votes, and motions of the members in meetings assembled are strictly carried out and honored so as to successfully carry out the purpose of the association. The office of the President of the Board shall be filled by the President of the Association. Complete reports of all actions, decisions, and recommendations shall be submitted by the Secretary to members assembled at the regular membership meeting. **The Board will meet at least two times yearly in order to set policy, guide the direction of the club, and manage the business of the Association.**

RESIGNATIONS

All resignations shall be made in writing and presented to the Secretary of the Association.

EXPULSION

Any member who **is found to be injurious to the organization, its mission, or its members may be expelled by a two-thirds vote of the whole Board of Directors.** Before any proceedings are taken in the proposed expulsion of a member, he/she must have a written notice of the contemplated action. **Said member** is entitled to a personal hearing before the Board, but without the right of representation by outside counsel.

COMMITTEES

All committees, except Show committees, shall be appointed by the President of the Association subject to approval of the association.

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

This association shall be governed in all its meetings by parliamentary law, as contained in "Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Law".

QUORUM

At any regular meeting of this Association, ten voting members shall constitute a quorum.

REVISED 2008