



## CONSTITUTION

### **Name of Society:**

THE NEMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

### **Purpose:**

To advance the science of Nematology in southern Africa in both its fundamental and applied aspects. To serve this purpose the Society shall act as an agency for the exchange of information, shall hold regular symposia and shall promote and extend knowledge in all phases of the subjects.

## **BYELAWS**

### **1. General meeting**

A general meeting shall be held at least biennially to coincide, whenever practicable, with symposia. Written notice shall be given to all members at least sixty (60) days before the date of the meeting.

A quorum shall be constituted by those members present and entitled to vote at a general meeting of the Society after proper prior notice of the meeting.

At general meetings of the Society all questions shall be determined by a majority vote of the members present in person.

### **2. Office bearers**

The office bearers shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Symposium Chairperson and one (1) additional member. Only ordinary and/or honorary members shall be eligible for office.



Election of office bearers shall take place at the general meeting of the Society and shall be for a period of two years. Office bearers shall be eligible for re-election.

The office bearers shall act as the Executive Body of the Society and shall serve the purpose and manage the affairs and business of the Society.

Meetings of the Executive Body shall take place at the time of general meetings of the Society, and at such other times as the Executive Body may deem necessary upon the discretion of the President, and after fourteen (14) days prior notice to every office bearer.

Three or more office bearers constitute a quorum at meetings of the Executive Body.

Every office bearer has one vote, but the President has a casting vote.

Vacancies in the Executive Body occurring between general meetings shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term by majority of the remaining office bearers.

The President shall preside over general meetings and Executive Body meetings and shall present an annual report at general meetings of the Society.

The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President and shall perform the functions of the President when so acting.

The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep the minutes of meetings of the Executive Body and of general meetings, perform all secretarial duties of the Society and the Executive Body, serve notice of Executive Body and general meetings, keep the membership roll, collect the membership fees, administer and safeguard the funds of the Society and present a report and audited financial statement at the general meetings of the Society.



The Symposium Chairperson shall appoint a Symposium Organising Committee and be responsible for organising the forthcoming symposium. All funds collected for the purpose of a symposium belong to the Society. The Symposium Chairperson shall present a report and financial statement of the Executive Body at most sixty (60) days after the symposium.

### **3. Membership**

(1) Any person interested in nematology shall be eligible for membership, subject to the approval of the Executive Body.

(2) There shall be three (3) classes of membership, viz. ordinary members, sustaining members and honorary members. A sustaining member shall be any person or body of persons contributing funds other than regular membership fees to the Society on a continuous basis. Any member of the Society can be granted honorary membership on the grounds of exceptional contributions to Nematology or to the Society over an extended period. A motivated nomination for honorary membership by any member of the Society must be seconded by any other member of the Society and handed in writing to the Executive Body timeously before a general meeting.

(3) Ordinary membership fees will be determined by the general meeting. Minimum sustaining membership fees will be determined by the Executive Body.

(4) Only members whose dues are fully paid and honorary members shall be entitled to vote at general meetings.



#### **4. Newsletter**

The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible to issue a newsletter for the Society at least three (3) times in two (2) years, to be distributed among members.

#### **5. Amendment to the Bye-Laws**

(1) Written proposals for amendments to the Bye-Laws may be given to the Secretary/Treasurer by any member at least thirty (30) days before the general meeting. Written notice of any proposals for amendments to the Bye-Laws shall be served on all members fourteen (14) days prior to the general meeting by the Secretary/Treasurer.

(2) Amendments to the Bye-Laws may be made by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at the general meeting.

#### **6. Dissolution**

In the event of the dissolution of the Society, any assets that there may be shall be distributed by the Executive Body for scientific purposes.