

LAKESHORE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF TORONTO
BY-LAWS

Revised 2019

The original By-Laws were approved by the executive on June 7th 1971. (Subsequent amendments were approved by the general membership in later years.)

The society shall be a non-profit organization, affiliated with the African Violet Society of America and the African Violet Society of Canada.

The objects of this society shall be to afford a convenient and beneficial association of persons interested in the African violet, and to simulate interest in the propagation and culture of the African violet.

All persons sincerely interested in growing African violets shall be eligible for membership in this society.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership year shall be September to August 31st of the following year. (Amended October 1994) Any member whose dues are paid up shall be entitled to one vote on any matter brought before the general membership. In order to participate in the show, you must be a card holding member of the society by December 31st of the current season, September through August. (Amended January 1978) This does not apply to members joining for the first time. New members joining after January 1st will have their membership extended to August 31st of the following year. (Amended January 1985)

Any individual who has been a member for 12 consecutive years, is entitled to a dues-free life membership when they pass their 70th birthday. In the case of a family membership, the dues-free life membership would extend to both/all family members, when one of them passes their 70th birthday. The same 12 year membership requirement applies. Those provisions apply to both regular and commercial members. Anyone may purchase a Life membership in the Lakeshore African Violet Society for an amount that is 15 times the current annual dues (Amended May 2006)

All life members, regardless of types, pay a nominal fee to cover the insurance (Adopted September 2015 – Amended November 2018)

OFFICERS

The officers shall consist of the President, Vice-president, Secretary (Recording and Corresponding), and Treasurer, Past president and up to four directors appointed by the president. (Amended September 1996)

Term of the office for the president shall be limited to two years. In the event that no member can be found to take that office, that officer may be requested to take a further two year term. All other officers may be re-elected every two years. (Amended September 1996)
Quorum: A quorum in the Executive shall consist of 50% of the executive plus one.

DUTIES:

PRESIDENT: The president shall have general superintendence of the affairs of the society, shall preside at all meetings of the society (general and executive), shall keep informed of the work of the society and make any necessary reports to the Executive and society at large as may be needed. The president shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. In the case of a tied vote at any meeting the president shall cast the deciding vote.

VICE-PRESIDENT: The vice-president shall perform the duties of the president when the latter is unable to do so. The vice-president shall also be the membership convenor, which entails greeting members at all meetings, and introducing new and prospective members to the society. The vice-president will head a committee to contact members concerning special events. (Amended November 1974)

SECRETARY: The secretary will be responsible for keeping accurate minutes of all the meetings of the executive and general membership. Also such correspondence as may be authorized by the president on behalf of the society.

TREASURER: The treasurer shall be responsible for all monies received by the society, shall pay expenses as may be approved by the executive. The treasurer shall collect membership dues, and present an annual financial report to the society. The treasurer and one of 2 designated signing officers shall sign all society cheques.

DIRECTOR: To perform such duties as prescribed by the president.

CONVENORS: The following convenors shall be appointed by the executive at the beginning of each membership year.

REFRESHMENT CONVENOR: To serve refreshments at each meeting. Convenor is to purchase tea, coffee, cups, milk and sugar, and be reimbursed by the treasurer.

LIBRARY CONVENOR: To keep accurate records of the library books, and bring books to each meeting in order that members desiring to do so can borrow same.

PERIODICALS LIBRARY: A library of magazines and books pertaining to the growing of African violets and gesneriads shall be set up.

CLUB SALES TABLE CONVENOR: To sell supplies (soil, pots, vermiculite, charcoal, etc.) at all meetings, proceeds to be given to the treasurer at the conclusion of each meeting.

SUNSHINE CONVENOR: To send get well cards, sympathy cards etc. upon hearing of illness, deaths etc. of the membership. This also includes the sending of fruit baskets or flowers when requested by the executive. All expenses to be reimbursed by the society to the convenor. This is to apply to members and friends of the society only.

RAFFLE CONVENOR: To supervise the donation of items and sell raffle tickets at each general meeting.

MINI-SHOW CONVENOR: To facilitate the entry of mini-show exhibits, procure a judge, and distribute appropriate ribbons.

SALES BY MEMBERS: Sales tables will be made available at a general meeting, annual show and/or open house for African violets, gesneriads, supplies and related articles, with 20% of their sales of plants and leaves and supplies going to the society. (Table size may vary, according to space available.) (Amended November 2018)

RULES OF ORDER:

The latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*, Newly Revised, shall be used as the authority to govern all situations not covered by the by-laws.

AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS:

These by-laws may be amended or revised by a two thirds vote of members at any regular or special meeting. A proposed amendment to the by-laws must be presented to the Executive Board then sent to the members 30 days in advance of the meeting when the vote will take place.

Date of approval: October 4, 2019

President - Bruce Williams

Secretary - Julie Thompson