
CONSTITUTION
OF
SOUTHERN AFRICAN SHOW POULTRY
ORGINISATION

NOVEMBER 2024



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ARTICLE 1 - NAME OF THE SOCIETY

The Organisation shall be known as the

SOUTHERN AFRICAN SHOW POULTRY ORGANISATION (SASPO)

- a) Initially formed as the South African Poultry Association in Kimberley, January 1904.
- b) Organised as the Standard Breed Society of the South African Poultry Association in 1968.
- c) The name became the South African Show Poultry Organisation (SASPO) of the South African Poultry Association (SAPA), on 31 October 1988 in Kempton Park.
- d) On 9 July 1993, at Vryburg, SASPO broke its relationship with SAPA and proceeded independently as the Southern African Show Poultry Organisation.
- e) Registered as an "Animal Breeders' Society" under the Animal Improvement Act, 1998 (ACT No 82 of 1998), April 2004.

ARTICLE 2 – DEFINITIONS

Throughout the SASPO Constitution, By-Laws and Show Rules and Regulations, the following words or phrases shall have the meaning given here, unless these meanings are entirely inconsistent with the context. The singular form also refers to the plural form and vice versa. This also includes the masculine as well as the feminine form unless this is contradictory to the meaning.

1. Judge

A person in good standing and a holder of an official judge's certificate issued by the Organisation or any other organisation recognised by SASPO.

2. Committee

The Committee of the SA Show Poultry Organisation elected in terms of the Constitution.

3. Organisation

The Southern African Show Poultry Organisation (SASPO).

4. Breed

A distinct breed of poultry, answering truly to the type, carriage and characteristics distinctive of the breed name they take, for example Leghorn, Pekin and Rouen including large and bantam fowl, waterfowl and turkeys, as recognised by the Organisation in terms of its Standards of Perfection.

5. Variety

A definite branch of a breed known by its distinctive colour or marking - for example, the black is a variety of the Minorca. A sub-variety is a sub-division of an established variety, differing in shape of comb from the original - for example, the rose-combed black is a sub-

variety of the black Minorca. (Thus a breed includes all varieties and sub-varieties as recognised by the Organisation in terms of its Standards of Perfection.)

6. Show Holding Club (Affiliated Club)

A Show Holding club or society affiliated under the Articles of the SA Show Poultry Organisation's Constitution or specially licensed by the Organisation to hold a show under its Show Rules. Recognised show holding clubs consist of at least ten (10) members who are affiliated through the club with the Organisation.

7. Specialist Club

A club specialising in one breed only and shall act in an advisory capacity when Standards are being revised. Recognised specialist clubs consist of at least ten (10) members who are affiliated through a show holding club with the Organisation.

8. Fraudulent Practice

As defined in the By-Laws.

9. Official Organ

Shall mean the SASPO Gazette or such other publication as may, from time to time, be recognised as an official organ of the Southern African Show Poultry Organisation.

10. Secretariat

A Secretary and Treasurer are appointed at an annual general meeting and control the secretariat.

ARTICLE 3 – OBJECTIVES

1. To establish and maintain an organisation in Southern Africa, to combine the following closely related interests:
 - 1.1. The conducting of poultry shows:
 - 1.2. To encourage and protect poultry shows as being the show window of our industry, and education for both breeder and public, and a means of interesting young future breeders in taking up show poultry.

2. To foster and promote the breeding of standard breed poultry and the conducting of poultry shows under the By-Laws and Rules of the Organisation and also to promote all matters tending towards the improvement of the pure breeding of poultry, shows and judging in South Africa by:
 - 2.1. Arranging examinations for persons eager of becoming judges and the issuing of official certificates to those persons approved as qualified judges.
 - 2.2. Maintaining a high standard of judges and of judging.
 - 2.3. Maintaining a high standard of exhibits at shows and at other competitions.
 - 2.4. Constantly endeavour to maintain a high standard of conduct at all shows.

- 2.5. Maintain an official Standard of Perfection for those breeds and varieties approved by the Organisation, by recommending and submitting amendments whenever necessary or desirable.
- 2.6. Protection of the show poultry industry from adverse legislation and any other aggression, and by initiating, fostering and assisting in obtaining legislation and regulations beneficial of show poultry and allied industries.
- 2.7. Assisting in providing members with supplies of commodities pertaining to the industry.
- 2.8. Publishing literature, journals, pamphlets and circulars dealing with all matters pertaining to the standard breeding and showing of poultry and allied industries and promoting on behalf of this industry.
- 2.9. Co-operating with other organisations whenever such action would improve the standard of shows and competitions, judges or breeds in the Republic of South Africa and elsewhere.
- 2.10. Acting as arbitrators in the settlement of any dispute in the interest of members or clubs which may arise.
- 2.11. To assist, encourage and help educate the junior poultry person to the sound and practical value of standard-bred poultry and pure breeding.
- 2.12. Dealing with any matter which may be in the interest of this section of the industry, the Organisation and its members.

ARTICLE 4 – MEMBERSHIP

Any person of good moral and business reputation who has an interest in showing pure bred poultry or any other society promoting the interests of standard-bred poultry may become a member of the Organisation upon payment of the required monies and under one of the following classifications:

1. Ordinary members

Individuals who have an interest in show poultry and who are members of a show holding club recognised by the Organisation.

2. Recognised Show holding Clubs

Recognised show holding clubs consist of at least ten (10) members who are affiliated through the club with the Organisation.

3. President

A President may be nominated by the SASPO Committee after a thorough investigation of his achievements. He is chosen for a period of three (3) years but may resign or retire at any time. The President forms part of the Executive Committee (EXCO).

4. Honorary Life Members

- 4.1 Any person who has made substantial and/or outstanding contribution to the hobby may be nominated to become a life member. Should a person be nominated for his involvement with the hobby on club level, that service should be of no less than ten years duration. Should a person be nominated for contribution to the hobby on national level, that service should be of no less than five years duration.
- 4.2 Such nomination shall be made only on the grounds of appreciation of such person's services to show poultry and shall be submitted with the motivation for the nomination. Any member of the Executive Committee and the SASPO Committee may submit nominations for Honorary Life Membership which will be presented to the AGM. A seconder for the proposal is required, and voting will be by ballot.
- 4.3 There shall not be, at any time, more than ten (10) honorary life members.

5. Associated Member.

May be any Joint Venture, Family, Fair, Poultry Show or Educational Institution interested in standard-bred poultry.

ARTICLE 5 - ELECTION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Application

Application for any type of membership shall be made via a recognised club. Affiliated clubs must submit complete membership lists each year before the end of January to the secretariat of the Organisation. The Committee shall have the power to accept or reject any application (from a club or individual) without assigning any reason.

2. Recognised Clubs

- 2.1. Applications for affiliation to the Organisation shall be in writing and applicants should submit a copy of their Constitution with proof of membership and the entrance fee to the Secretary. Any amendments to the constitution which may be made from time to time, shall be submitted for approval by the SASPO Committee.
- 2.2. No club shall be accepted for affiliation if there is any doubt that it will not promote the objectives of the Organisation, and/or until it has declared itself a "show holding club". (Show holding clubs shall be those whose main objective is the holding of annual poultry shows).
- 2.3. All members of specialist clubs must be members of another show holding club.

3. Honorary Life Members

Honorary Life Members may only be elected at Annual General Meetings by a two-third majority vote for services rendered, which fact shall be recorded in the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting. Notice of motion for the election of honorary life members shall be given eight (8) weeks prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.

4. **Names and Addresses**

The names and addresses of the members of the Organisation shall not be disclosed to any person or organisation for any purpose unless by special permission of the Committee. The list of qualified judges however shall be freely available.

ARTICLE 6 - SUBSCRIPTION AND VOTING POWER

1. **Ordinary members:** Each paid-up member of the Organisation who is also a member of a recognised club is entitled to one (1) vote at any SASPO Annual General Meeting.
2. **Honorary Life Members and Honorary President:** Honorary life members and the honorary president will carry one (1) vote at any SASPO Annual General Meetings to be exercised personally without the right to cast a postal or proxy vote.
3. **The Chairman:** The Chairman shall be entitled to exercise a deliberative as well as a casting vote at a SASPO Annual General Meeting, as well at a SASPO Committee Meeting.
4. **Executive Committee members:** Each member of the Executive Committee shall have one vote at any SASPO Committee Meeting.
5. **SASPO Affiliated Specialised Clubs:** SASPO Affiliated clubs will carry one (1) vote each at any SASPO Committee Meeting.
6. **SASPO Affiliated Show Holding Clubs:** Every SASPO Affiliated club will carry two (2) votes for each of the two representatives at any SASPO Committee Meeting. In addition to this, every SASPO Affiliated Show Holding club shall have one extra vote for each ten (10) members affiliated to SASPO, the first ten (10) members excluded.
7. Individual members, as described in Clause 1, will exercise their own vote personally at the Annual General Meeting. A member who cannot attend a general meeting cannot cast a postal vote.
8. No member of an organisation or member of a recognised club shall vote at any election or General meetings of the Organisation or enjoy any other benefit from the Organisation, unless such affiliation or member is in good standing at the time of nomination and at the time of voting.
9. Subscriptions, affiliation fees, entry fees and all other fees payable by affiliations and members shall be fixed and may be altered from time to time by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Annual General Meeting.
10. All affiliation fees shall become due on 1 January of each year and payable to the SASPO before 31 January of each year.

11. Upon receipt of affiliation/membership fees, a SASPO membership number will be issued. New members may join at any time after 1 January at the full affiliation fee.
12. Any affiliated club that does not have ten (10) fully paid-up members by 31 March shall be deemed to have discontinued membership. To re-join an entry fee of which the amount will be determined from time to time will have to be paid.

ARTICLE 7 - GENERAL MEETINGS

1. Annual General Meeting

- 1.1. The annual meetings or conventions are the most important meetings of the Organisation and the secretary should give advance notice, three (3) months or more, of the place and location. A general meeting styled the "Annual General Meeting" of the SA Show Poultry Organisation shall be held at the time and place of the annual SASPO Championship Show.
- 1.2. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:
 - 1.2.1 Receive and consider the Report of the Chairman and the statement of revenue and expenditure of the SA Show Poultry Organisation for the past financial year.
 - 1.2.2 Consider such matters as may be included in the agenda.
 - 1.2.3 Determine the venue of the Championship Show two years in advance or, if not possible, for the following year.
 - 1.2.4 Elect a Chairman of the Organisation from amongst the members present.
 - 1.2.5 Elect a Secretary and Treasurer of the Organisation from amongst the members present.
 - 1.2.6 Elect a President from the nominations provided by the SASPO Committee.
- 1.3. All resolutions for discussion at the Annual General Meeting shall be in the hands of the Secretariat at least eight (8) weeks prior to the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting. Any resolution received after this date will be rejected.
- 1.4. The Committee may edit and, if necessary, amend any resolution submitted for inclusion on the agenda, provided any amendment does not alter the basic intention as contained in the original copy.
- 1.5. Notice of the date of the Annual General Meeting shall be given to all affiliations and members at least eight (8) weeks prior to the meeting. The agendas, also reflecting the resolutions, shall be posted to all affiliations not later than four (4) weeks prior to the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting.

2. Special General Meeting

A Special General Meeting may be called by the Committee as required. A Special General Meeting shall be called at the written request of members of affiliations representing not less than thirty percent (30%) of the total voting strength of the Organisation at that time for a

date within nine (9) weeks of such request being received by the Secretariat. At least eight (8) weeks' notice of such meeting shall be given to the members by post, stating the business for which such meeting has been called, and no other business except as stated in the notice shall be discussed at such meeting.

3. Emergency Special General Meeting

If, in the opinion of the Committee, an Emergency Special General Meeting is necessary to discuss matters of urgency, the Committee may call such meeting for a date not less than two (2) weeks from the date of despatch of the notice of meeting.

4. Chairman

The Chairman of the Committee, and in his absence the Vice-Chairman, shall be Chairman at all general meetings. In the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman the meeting shall appoint a Chairman.

5. Quorum

Twenty-five (25) members shall form a quorum for the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting called by the Committee. Failing a quorum at a Special General Meeting requisitioned by members or affiliations, such meeting shall stand adjourned for an indefinite period of time.

ARTICLE 8 – MANAGEMENT

1. Committee

- 1.1. The executive powers of the Organisation shall be vested in a managing body termed the SASPO Committee.
- 1.2. The SASPO Committee shall consist of the Executive Committee (EXCO), as well as the chairmen and the secretaries (or their representatives) of each affiliated club.
- 1.3. The Committee is empowered to appoint sub-committees to assist or administer any of its business, for example, examinations, Breed Standards, Judges, Constitution, By-Laws and Show Rules, Poultry Rings, Publications, adjudicate appeals on grievances, disputes and the findings on disciplinary hearings and the sanctions imposed.

2. Executive Committee (EXCO)

The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, as well as the President. At least two poultry clubs must be represented in the Executive Committee.

2.1. Election and terms of office.

The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting by secret ballot from amongst the members present. The term for each position is one (1) year.

The President shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting by secret ballot from the nominations put forward by the SASPO Committee. The term of this position is three (3) years. Also see Article 4 point 3.

The Vice-Chairman shall, at the first SASPO Committee Meeting after the Annual General

Meeting, be appointed from amongst its members. The term of this position is one (1) year.

None of these offices may be combined as one office.

- 2.2. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Committee and the Executive Committee. He shall be entitled to exercise a deliberative as well as a casting vote.

The Vice-Chairman shall, in the absence of the Chairman, exercise all the rights and privileges of the Chairman as defined throughout this Constitution.

- 2.3. The committee shall, at its first meeting after the general meeting, appoint a Ringmaster, Points Master and Webmaster. Nominations, with the necessary motivation for individuals to fill these positions, must be filed with the SASPO Secretary no less than 30 days before the mentioned meeting. Nominees need not necessarily be members of the SASPO committee. Nominations will then be circulated to the committee for their consideration. Election will take place, by closed ballot, in accordance with voting procedures as set out in Article 8, paragraph 7. The terms of these positions are three (3) years.

3. Any club who fails to attend two consecutive Committee meetings without having obtained prior leave, shall be deemed to have resigned its seat on the Committee.

4. Casual vacancies on the Committee which may occur shall be filled by the club concerned.

5. Members of the Committee and the Executive Committee shall appoint their alternates, in writing, as early as possible when unable to attend meetings.

6. The Committee and Executive Committee shall meet as follows:

- 6.1. The Committee not less than twice (2) per annum, viz. in February and at the Championship Show (June/July).

- 6.2. The Executive Committee when necessary.

- 6.3. The meeting of the Executive Committee shall be convened at the Chairman's discretion, except when at least five (5) Committee members request a meeting of the Committee.

- 6.4. The Chairman and all the members of the Committee shall be entitled to travelling and reasonable out-of-pocket expenses (if affordable) incurred when attending the February meeting only.

- 6.5. The quorum for all Committee, Executive Committee and Sub-Committee meetings shall be the members present.

7. At SASPO Committee Meetings voting shall be as follows:

- 7.1. Each member of the Executive Committee and every Affiliated Specialised Club shall have one (1) vote.
- 7.2. Each of the two representatives of every Affiliated Show Holding Club shall have one (1) vote.
- 7.3. In addition to this, every SASPO Affiliated Show Holding Club shall have one (1) extra vote for every ten (10) members affiliated to SASPO, the first 10 members excluded.
- 7.4. The chairman shall be entitled to exercise a deliberative as well as a casting vote.

ARTICLE 9 – POWERS

1. The Committee shall give effect to all resolutions passed at the Annual and Special General Meetings.
2. The Committee shall have power to:-
 - 2.1. Appoint an Executive Committee, as envisaged in Article 8 (Clause 2) and sub-committees to deal with any branch of the fancy, or with any particular work of the Committee as described in the By-Laws. Carry out any of the objectives of the Organisation or institute the enquiries with regard to any matters pertaining to the fancy.
 - 2.2. Co-opt other persons to the Committee, such persons to serve in an advisory capacity only. A person who has been co-opted has no right to vote and will also not be remunerated for any expenses made.
 - 2.3. Act and decide on any matter arising between Annual General Meeting, such action or decision not being contrary to any resolution of an Annual General Meeting,
 - 2.4. Apply to any governing authority for and allocate funds incidental to the objectives, functions and activities of the Organisation.
 - 2.5. Frame By-Laws and Show Rules for the efficient working of the Organisation.
 - 2.6. Impose disqualifications on, discipline, suspend or expel defaulting affiliations or members for contravention of the Constitution, By-Laws or Show Rules or whose conduct has, in the opinion of the Committee, been detrimental or injurious to the interest of the Organisation and/or its affiliations and members.
 - 2.7. Disqualify a member or club for good and sufficient reason. Notification of any such disqualification shall be made in the official organ or in any other manner which, in the opinion of the Committee, will afford the required publicity. The terms of Article 9 (Clause 2.6) hereof may be applied to any person falling under the Organisation's jurisdiction who judges or exhibits at such shows. The name of any affiliation or person disqualified shall be communicated to all affiliations, such affiliation or person shall be excluded from all benefits of members. Entries at shows from disqualified persons shall not be accepted during the period of disqualification.

- 2.8. Grant medals or other awards to recognised shows and competitions promoted for the benefit of the fancy, and to withhold such awards from competitors who may have been disqualified under the aforementioned clauses, By-Laws or Show Rules governing the competitions and shows.
- 2.9. Issue judge's certificates, badges and tokens or suspend same.
- 2.10. Exercise jurisdiction over all affiliations and all members, official judges and all persons taking part in poultry shows, held under the By-Laws and Show Rules of the Organisation.

ARTICLE 10 – APPEALS

Appeal against the Committee's decision on any of the above penalties may be made to the Annual General Meeting provided that at least thirty (30) days' notice thereof shall have been given and a deposit of one hundred Rand (R100) be lodged with the Secretariat, which amount shall be forfeited if the appeal is not upheld.

1. For purposes of Article 8.1.3 read with Article 9.2.6: The appeal structure of SASPO comprises of appeal procedures specified in the By-Laws which findings will be final and binding on all parties concerned.
2. Clubs are compelled to provide in their Constitution for the same structures to resolve grievances and disputes of members and to conduct disciplinary procedures.
3. Appeals to the SASPO structures of appeal will be considered only after all the remedies provided for in the Constitution of Clubs have been exhausted.
4. All appeals must be submitted in writing and will be considered if submitted by the Secretary of the member's Club only.
5. By virtue of their membership of SASPO, members subject themselves to dispute resolutions as prescribed by this Constitution as final and binding without them having any further recourse to any Court of Law.
6. The principles and procedures related to dispute resolutions and on disciplinary hearings are prescribed in the By-Laws of this Constitution.

ARTICLE 11 - FINANCES

1. All subscriptions, affiliation fees, entry fees and other income due by affiliated members in terms of this Constitution, By-Laws and Show Rules, shall be paid directly to the Secretariat of the Southern African Show Poultry Organisation.

2. The Treasurer shall maintain accounts giving an adequate and correct record of the amounts received by the Organisation and the expenditure thereof.
3. The treasurer shall conduct an account in the name of SASPO at a recognised banking institution. Electronic funds transfer (EFT) payments will be made upon presentation of the necessary documentation (invoices or proof of payment). The payment will be made by mutual agreement by the chairman and the treasurer.

ARTICLE 12 - DEFUNCT AFFILIATIONS

1. In the event of a show holding or specialist club becoming defunct, all funds, cups, trophies and other assets belonging to such club shall be vested in the SASPO Committee in trust for one year. The monies and other assets of such defunct bodies shall, after the lapse of the said one (1) year, become the property of the Southern African Show Poultry Organisation and shall be dealt with at the discretion of the SASPO Committee.
2. On the termination of any affiliation or membership as the case may be, for any cause whatsoever, such affiliated body or member shall, ipso facto, forfeit and cease to have any rights in or claims upon the Southern African Show Poultry Organisation.

ARTICLE 13 - OFFICIAL ORGAN

The SASPO Website, owned and managed by the Organisation, or any other publications recognised as official organs by an Annual General Meeting shall be the official organ of the Organisation.

ARTICLE 14 – LANGUAGE

English and Afrikaans shall be the official languages.

ARTICLE 15 - AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

1. No alteration of the Constitution shall be made except where such an alteration is carried by a two-thirds majority of the votes represented at an Annual General Meeting at the time of voting.
Any notice of motion to amend shall be submitted to the Secretariat not less than eight (8) weeks prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.
2. Amendments to a proposed resolution appearing on the Annual General Meeting agenda affecting the Constitution shall be in the hands of the Secretariat at least seven (7) days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

ARTICLE 16 - INTERPRETATION OF CONSTITUTION

1. In case of doubt or dispute as to the meaning or application of this Constitution, the interpretation of the Committee shall be binding upon the members until the next Annual General Meeting.
2. In the case of any doubt or dispute, the English version of the Constitution shall be regarded as the official Constitution.

ARTICLE 17 - BY-LAWS AND SHOW RULES

1. There may be framed by the Committee, from time to time, if and when necessary, By-Laws and Show Rules, not inconsistent with the Constitution, which shall have the effect as though part of this Constitution when approved by the Committee.
2. By-Laws or Show Rules may be added, amended or rescinded by the Committee subject to proper notification by a majority of votes at a SASPO Committee Meeting.
3. All discussions taken at any general meeting as described in Article 9 shall be of immediate effect and it shall be deemed to the full knowledge of all affiliates of the Organisation. The Secretariat will be responsible to inform all the members as soon as possible in writing, about the decisions taken.

ARTICLE 18 – LEGAL MATTERS

1. The Committee of the SA Show Poultry Organisation shall represent the Organisation in legal matters and shall have the power to institute and defend legal proceedings by or against the Organisation. Legal documents shall be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Committee in conformity with resolutions passed by the Committee or Executive Committee of the said Organisation.
2. Members of the Committee or of the Executive Committee or of special committees shall not incur any personal liability of any nature to any person or body in the execution of their duties and shall be indemnified by the SA Show Poultry Organisation.
3. The Organisation does not hold itself in any way responsible for the liabilities incurred by any affiliation (club), members of affiliations or other members.

ARTICLE 19 - WAIVING OF RIGHTS

Every affiliation (club) or other member of the Organisation, or members of affiliated clubs, and every exhibitor under the Constitution of this Organisation shall be deemed to have waived its right against the Organisation for any damage consequent on the operation or enforcement of the Constitution, By-Laws and Show Rules.

ARTICLE 20 - DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of the Southern African Show Poultry Organisation for whatever reason, any surplus funds in cash, after all the Organisation's debts have been paid shall be distributed on a pro-rata basis amongst the existing affiliated poultry clubs.