



Iowa Blue Chicken Club, Inc.

Code and Bylaws



January 18, 2013

Article I – Name

This organization shall be known as Iowa Blue Chicken Club, Inc., otherwise abbreviated to IBCC. The organization shall be volunteer in nature and not for profit.

Article II – Objectives

The objectives of the organization shall include but not be limited to the following:

- To provide a support network for the membership, where member talent is embraced and encouraged.
- To educate the general public and further the interest in the Iowa Blue chicken breed through breeding, displaying, showing, and promoting the Iowa Blue.
- To promote the breeding of and improvement of the Iowa Blue chicken breed.
- To uphold the standards set by the American Poultry Association upon acceptance of the Iowa Blue breed into the Standards of Perfection.

Article III – Membership/Membership Contributions

Section 1 - All worthy persons of honorable character interested in our breed, our organization and our ideals are eligible for membership in our club.

Section 2A - Application for membership may be obtained by any individual and sent to the Treasurer with full payment or filled out online with the payment completed online. All membership contributions must be paid in U.S. Currency:

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| • Junior Membership - \$5.00/paid annually. | Juniors are eligible for 1 vote. |
| • Individual Membership - \$10.00/paid annually. | Individuals are eligible for 1 vote. |
| • Family Membership - \$15.00/paid annually. | Family is eligible for 2 votes. |
| • Lifetime Individual Membership - \$200.00. | Individuals are eligible for 1 vote. |
| • Lifetime Family Membership - \$300.00. | Family is eligible for 2 votes. |

Section 2B- Junior Membership, for youth under 16 years of age, shall have all rights of membership with the exception of serving on the Board of Directors.

Section 3 – Membership shall date from January 1st to December 31st. Membership Contributions shall be payable on or before the first day of January of each year. Notification shall be sent to any member whose contribution is delinquent beyond January 15 with lapse of membership occurring February 1st if membership contribution remains delinquent. During the month of November each member shall be notified that their Membership Contribution is payable on or before January 1.

Section 4 - Memberships beginning after November 1st shall have their Membership Contribution applied for the upcoming year's membership with membership voting privileges beginning January 1st of the upcoming year.

Section 5 - Upon receiving membership of the club, every member is accountable to the By Laws and Code of Ethics; and may not operate (in all dealings with the club or all dealings on behalf of the club) outside of the stated By Laws and Code of Ethics.

Section 6 - Membership in the organization may be terminated by:

- *Resignation* - Any member in good standing or not in good standing may resign from the organization upon written notice to the Treasurer, but no member shall resign when in debt to the organization. Upon resignation all Membership Contributions shall be forfeited to IBCC.
- *Lapsing* - A membership may be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's contribution remains unpaid on February 1st of each year. The Board of Directors may grant an additional (30) days of grace in meritorious cases. Any member whose membership has lapsed by reason of nonpayment of their contribution shall be required to pay their membership contribution before being reinstated to membership in the organization. In no case may a person be entitled to vote whose contribution is unpaid.
- *Expulsion* - With the Board of Directors review, membership may be immediately terminated by expulsion for violating any of the rules and precepts defined in the By Laws & Code of Ethics. Upon expulsion, all Membership Contributions shall be forfeited to IBCC.

Section 7 - The IBCC reserves the right to refuse membership to any person.

Article IV - Officers / Districts

Section 1 - Officers of the club shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and (6) Directors (one Director from each of the six Districts). These officers shall make up the Board of Directors with each officer having one vote. If a member holds more than one position on the Board of Directors, that person shall have only one vote.

Section 2 - The Board of Directors shall control the affairs of the club at all times and remove from office any officer (upon the majority vote of the Board of Directors), for misconduct or failure to adequately perform the duties of his/her office.

Section 3 - At no time shall any member of office or candidate for office campaign for an elected office. At no time shall any member be allowed to use money (personal or otherwise) to campaign for a position within the IBCC, and no member shall be allowed to campaign at meetings or in publications (IBCC publications or otherwise).

Section 4 - Until such time as the Board of Directors deems the club (or an individual District) has reached sufficient size to elect a District Director for each district, the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall appoint (6) General Directors (one for each District). General Directors shall serve 1 year terms (January 1st - December 31st) without term limits.

Section 5 - At such time as the Board of Directors deems a District (or Districts) large enough to elect a District Director, the General District leader shall complete his/her term and the elected District Director shall take over leadership of the District at the next designated election. The District Director elections shall occur opposite the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer Elections.

Section 6 – There shall be (6) districts as follows:

- District 1 – Northwest
 - Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming
- District 2 – Southwest
 - Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah
- District 3 – North-Central
 - Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin
- District 4 – South-Central
 - Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas
- District 5 – Northeast
 - Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia
- District 6 – Southeast
 - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia

Section 7 – The Board of Directors by majority vote may increase, decrease or rearrange the number of Districts as they deem necessary.

Section 8 – At such time an individual State reaches 20 active members for (2) consecutive years, said State may petition the Board of Directors to have their State established as a separate District with all privileges granted a District. Any State District with less than 20 active members for 5 consecutive years shall be re-absorbed in the original district or in a district deemed most convenient by the Board of Directors.

Article V – Election of Officers

Section 1 – Eligibility of Officers requires each candidate or appointee to be an active member of the club, in good standing within the club, and membership contributions up to date.

Section 2 – All elected officials shall serve (2) year terms starting January 1st and ending December 31st. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall not serve more than (2) consecutive terms. District Directors may serve an unlimited number of terms. Two members of an immediate family may not serve concurrently as President and Treasurer, nor become co-signers of the organizations funds.

Section 3 – Nominations for officers shall be held from October 1-October 31st. Elections for officers shall be held from November 1st-November 30th. All elections shall be held online via the IBCC website, with the

Webmaster being responsible for tallying votes and notifying the newly elected members by email of the results no later than December 2nd. The Webmaster shall promptly post the election results on the IBCC website. All general elections shall be officiated by the Webmaster via the IBCC website.

Section 4 – No person may be a candidate in an election who has not been nominated. Nominations shall be made by submitting the designated nominations form via the IBCC’s website in the month of October. The nominated candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected, with the President selected first, the Vice-President second, the Secretary third, and the Treasurer fourth.

Section 5 – In the event that there is a tie vote for any office, the members of the Board of Directors (who aren’t currently running for office) shall each cast a vote to break the tie. In such an event, the Secretary shall manage the voting and tallying. If the Secretary position is found to be in a tie vote, then the Treasurer shall manage the voting and tallying.

Article VI – Operation of the Club

Section 1 – The management of the IBCC shall be vested in the Board of Directors, which consists of all elected officers. The Board of Directors shall by majority vote:

- Approve all appointments made by the President.
- Rule on all questions pertaining to interpretation of this By Laws and Code of Ethics as deemed necessary.
- Rule on all matters not covered by this By Laws and Code of Ethics.
- Establish standards and qualifications for meets.

Section 2 – The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the IBCC and he/she:

- Shall preside at all official club meetings for the IBCC and the Board of Directors and shall perform all the duties customary and usual to the office.
- Shall be authorized to sign checks, drafts, and other orders for the payment of monies, notes or other indebtedness issued in the name of the organization, as well as statements and reports required to be filed with the state, federal officials, or agencies. The President may appoint (subject to Article VI, Section 1) another member (subject to Article V, Section 2) to receive authorization of the IBCC account in his/her place.
- Shall prepare the meeting agendas and have them available to the membership prior to each meeting.
- Shall appoint (subject to Article VI, Section 1) a Webmaster for the club.
- Shall appoint (subject to Article VI, Section 1) all vacancies of the Board of Directors. Officers appointed by the President shall hold office until the next election cycle for said office.
- Shall be his/her duty to encourage all elected or appointed officers to perform their responsibilities as outlined in this By Laws and Code of Ethics.
- Will submit, in a timely manner, an article to the Newsletter Committee for publishing in the quarterly Newsletter.
- Will on a monthly basis be in communication with each of the Board of Directors to keep updated on IBCC interests.
- At the expiration of his/her term of office, all organization property and all past records shall be turned over to the duly elected successor.

Section 3 – The Vice-President will assume all duties of the President in his/her absence and he/she:

- Shall take over the role of President and assume all duties should the Presidency become vacant.
- Shall appoint a replacement for the Vice President (subject to Article VI, Section 1) should he/she be required to assume the Presidency in the event that the Presidential office becomes vacant.
- Shall be the primary contact person to receive website emails and website correspondence.
- Will submit, in a timely manner, an article to the Newsletter Committee for publishing in the quarterly Newsletter.

- Will on a monthly basis be in communication with each of the Board of Directors to keep updated on IBCC interests.
- At the expiration of his/her term of office, all organization property and all past records shall be turned over to the duly elected successor.

Section 4 – The Secretary:

- Shall keep a record of all official club meetings of the IBCC and of the Board of Directors and of all matters for which a record shall be required for the organization.
- Shall notify members of all official club meetings, and keep a roll of members of the organization with their addresses and contact information.
- Shall keep a book in which the By-laws and other adopted rules shall be written.
- Shall keep a written log in this book stating when amendments are made to any of them with a cross-reference to the meeting minutes in which it occurred.
- Will submit, in a timely manner, an article to the Newsletter Committee for publishing in the quarterly Newsletter.
- All special elections/voting shall be officiated by the Secretary.
- At the expiration of his/her term of office, all organization property and all past records shall be turned over to the duly elected successor.

Section 5 – The Treasurer:

- Shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the organization.
- He/She shall deposit them in a financial institution designated by the Board of Directors, in the name of the organization.
- Shall at all times keep the books open to inspection of the Board of Directors and shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the organizations finances.
- Shall deposit all money in such financial institution and type of account as shall be designated by the Board of Directors, in the name of the organization, subject to withdrawal only upon one (1) of the two (2) signatures to appear on the account. The only authorized signatures shall be the President and Treasurer. With written notice to the Vice President of the withdrawal.
- Shall maintain an up to date roll of members of the organization and communicate all updates of membership to the Webmaster and Secretary.
- Shall fulfill other duties that are usual and customary to the office.
- Shall provide a prepared financial statement at every meeting and submitted to the President for club review.
- At the expiration of his/her term of office, all organization property and all past records shall be turned over to the duly elected successor.

Section 6 – The General/District Director represents the IBCC within his/her District and:

- Shall be actively involved with IBCC activities within his/her District.
- Promote, encourage, and work to advance the goals of the IBCC through friendly communication within his/her District.
- It will be left to the discretion of each General/District Director to appoint State Directors if needed.
- Will submit, in a timely manner, an article to the Newsletter Committee for publishing in the quarterly Newsletter.
- If the General/District Director fails to complete these responsibilities during the first year, a replacement director may be appointed.

Section 7 – Webmaster shall:

- Be responsible for all website maintenance for the IBCC.

- Be allowed to serve as Webmaster concurrently with other officer positions within the club.
- Serve until resigning post or until a new Webmaster has been appointed.

Section 8 – Junior President / Junior Vice-President

A junior member may be appointed by the President (subject to Article VI, Section 1) to serve a one year term as either a Junior President or Junior Vice-President. The Junior President will serve under mentorship of the President with the Junior Vice-President serving mentorship under the Vice-President. This program is designed to prepare our youth for leadership roles within the organization as well as allowing them to participate in the regular duties of both the President and Vice-President offices.

Article VII – Committees

Section 1 – Committees may be appointed at any time by either the President or a majority vote of the Board of Directors to assist in conduction of the club’s business or advance the work of the organization.

Section 2 - The duration of a committee appointed by the President shall be determined by the President. The duration of a committee appointed by the Board of Directors shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall define the powers of all committees.

Section 3 - At least one member of the Board of Directors shall be active in each appointed committee with the remaining committee members consisting of Board of Director members and/or active members appointed by the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each committee must consist of an odd number of members, and there shall be no limits imposed on the number of committees a member of the Board of Directors or active member may participate in.

Section 4 - Each committee shall first present their decisions to the Board of Directors for acceptance by the majority of the Board of Directors. Once an acceptance has been issued, the Board of Directors will decide (by majority) if the committee decisions are to be instantly incorporated or if said decisions must be sent to the membership for vote. Voting times and durations pertaining to the committee decisions as voted on by the membership shall be determined by the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 5 – All committee decisions pertaining to the breed Standard, amendments to the By Laws & Code of Ethics, and Meet Regulations shall be required to pass a majority vote of the membership voting. This vote may be held at either a club meeting or electronically via the IBCC website and managed by the Webmaster.

Section 6 – Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the Board of Directors upon written or email notice to the appointee, and the President may appoint (subject to Article VI, Section 1) successors to those persons whose services have been terminated.

Article VIII – Miscellaneous

Section 1 – The Fiscal Year

The Organization’s fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of January and end on the 31st day of December.

Section 2 – General Meetings

General meetings will be held at least one time per year, at a time and place to be announced at the previous meeting if possible. If not, all members will be notified by the Secretary of the meeting date, time and location.

Section 3 – Quorum

At all official club meetings, a quorum (defined as at least 3 members of the Board of Directors) will be required in order to conduct any club business or decide any issues.

Section 4 – Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of 'Roberts Rules of Order' shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not consistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the organization may adopt.

Section 5 – Donations

Donations to the IBCC will be used according to the intentions of the donor if expressed. Otherwise they will be used to promote IBCC activities.

Section 6 – Honorary Recognition

The IBCC may provide Honorary Recognition of a person, living or deceased, member or non-member, by appointment of the President and majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Article IX – Amendments to the By Laws and Code of Ethics

Section 1 – In January following the election of the President, the President shall appoint (subject to Article VI, Section 1) a committee of at least (2) members to review the By Laws and Code of Ethics for updating revisions. The committee shall report their findings to the Board of Directors. If changes are found necessary by the committee, then the Board of Directors shall follow the protocols as numerated in Article VII, Section 4, and Section 5.

Section 2 – Additional amendments to the Bylaws and Code of Ethics of the organization may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by any member in good standing at a general meeting.

Section 3 - Amendments must be presented in an electronic correspondence to the general membership a minimum of 30 days prior to being voted upon. This vote may be called by the President and be via a membership meeting or via an electronically conducted vote via the club's website. Majority vote of members present at designated meeting or electronic vote via the IBCC website shall pass amendments.

Article X – Meets

Section 1 - Once the Iowa Blue is recognized in the American Poultry Association's Standard of Perfection, a By Laws committee shall be formed to establish the structure of all club meets.

Article XI – Dissolution

Section 1 - The organization may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members. In the event of dissolution, after payment of all just debts and liabilities of the organization, any remaining assets shall be donated to the American Poultry Association.

CODE OF ETHICS FOR MEMBERS OF THE IOWA BLUE CHICKEN CLUB, INC.

This Code of Ethics of the Iowa Blue Chicken Club, Inc. is established as a means to promote professionalism and sportsmanship within the Organization, as well as to protect and maintain the credibility of the Organization as a representative Organization for the Iowa Blue Chicken Breed within the United States of America and with the American Poultry Association.

Article I - Compliance with Standards

Section 1 - Each member of the organization will comply with the recognized and accepted standards governing exhibition and breeding for the American Poultry Association.

Section 2 - Each member shall breed with the breed's standard, use, and breed characteristics in mind.

Article II - Sportsmanlike Conduct

Section 1 - Each member of the organization will exhibit honesty, integrity and conduct himself/herself in a civil and sportsmanlike manner in representing the club, in exhibition, and in breeding/sales of the fowl.

Section 2 - Each member should be willing to educate the public on the Iowa Blue Chicken breed and act as an ambassador of the breed at public functions.

Section 3 - Each member of the organization will work in cooperation with other organizations and agencies for the benefit of the conservation of the breed.

Section 4 - No member of the organization will behave in a manner that will discredit this organization and the Poultry community.

Section 5 - No member of the organization will express negativities or untruths towards other members, groups, or organizations.

Section 6 - At no time shall the IBCC deny membership based on race, religion, gender, or political affiliation. Nor shall any member be discriminated against based on the above listed criteria.