

Bylaws

as approved by the general membership
June 22, 2002

Article I Name

Section 1. The name of this nonprofit organization shall be the LOS ANGELES MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY (hereinafter referred to as the LAMS).

Section 2. The Board of Directors of LAMS shall be known as the Council. The individual directors shall be known as members of LAMS Council.

Article II Purposes

Section 1. The purpose of LAMS shall be:

- a. To foster and expand the understanding and appreciation of mycology.
- b. To assist related institutions or societies in the furtherance of this purpose.

Section 2. LAMS shall do all other things necessary to carry out the purposes put forth in any duly constituted Articles of Incorporation.

Section 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of these bylaws, the Los Angeles Mycological Society shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an association exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law) or (b) by an association contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law).

Article III Membership

Section 1. Any person interested in mycology is eligible for LAMS membership.

Section 2. Membership classifications shall be set and reviewed annually by the Council.

Section 3. Each membership with dues current shall be entitled to one vote on any question requiring a vote of the LAMS membership. In cases where more than one individual is included as part of a membership, those individuals will share a single vote.

Article IV Dues and Fees

Section 1. Membership dues shall be assessed annually at a fee to be recommended by the Council and approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting. The annual membership fee will include subscription to the LAMS newsletter The Spore Print, which is the official means of communication notices and reports to the LAMS members.

Section 2. A portion of the annual dues shall be identified as the cost of providing The Spore Print. Each current membership in LAMS is entitled to receive one subscription without any additional costs.

Article V Officers and Council

Section 1. The officers of LAMS shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, a Secretary and the Editor of The Spore Print.

Section 2. The Council shall consist of the current elected officers, the immediate Past President and five (5) to seven (7) other elected members.

Section 3. The President shall chair the Council meetings, the annual meeting and any special meetings of the membership and carry out any other duties assigned by the Council.

Section 4. The Vice-President shall serve in the absence of the President and serve as LAMS program Chairman.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall keep records of the Council and shall have custody of LAMS funds for dispersal at the direction of the Council and prepare an annual financial report.

Section 6. The Editor of The Spore Print shall produce the newsletter in a manner directed by the Council.

Section 7. The Secretary shall maintain a book of minutes which will contain minutes of all business meetings and actions of the Council, with the time and place of the meetings, names of those present at the meetings, and the proceedings of the meetings.

Section 8. The duties of the Council shall be to plan and direct activities on behalf of LAMS and to oversee the activities of the officers.

Article VI Meetings, Quorum and Elections

Section 1. A quorum for the LAMS Annual Meeting is the number of those members who are present or provided for by proxy: a quorum of the Council shall be six (6).

Section 2. The Annual Meeting of the LAMS shall be primarily a business meeting and shall be held in the County of Los Angeles, or adjacent counties in June of each year at a time and location which will be announced in The Spore Print at least one month prior to the meeting.

Section 3. The Council shall hold meetings at least four (4) times a year. The time and location of each meeting will be published in The Spore Print at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting. Only acts done or decisions made by a majority of the Council members present at a meeting duly held, at which a quorum was present, shall be regarded as valid acts of the Council.

Section 4. Program meetings will usually be held monthly from November to May. The announcement of the meeting will be published in The Spore Print within the 2 weeks prior to each meeting.

Section 5. Special meetings of the general membership to deal with specific topics may be called by the Council, or by written petition signed by at least 5% of the current membership, addressed to the Council. The agenda of such meeting to be announced in The Spore Print.

Section 6. The Council members including the officers will be elected each year at the annual meeting. Voting for these offices will be accomplished by the Official Ballot included in the Spore Print prior to the election and may be mailed to a designated member of the Council or handed in at the regularly scheduled LAMS meeting. With his or her consent, any member of the society may be nominated for any of the positions on the Council. Council positions other than the named officers are: Field Trip Chair, Resident Mycologist, Culinary Advisor, Librarian, Bookseller, Membership Chair, and Refreshments Chair. Should no member be nominated for one of the council positions council will be reduced accordingly.

Section 7. Any member of the Council may be removed from the Council or any office they fill, with or without cause, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Council members present at a duly called Council meeting, provided that all the current Council members are notified that removal of that Council member is to be on the agenda at least two weeks prior to that meeting

Section 8. Should any officer die, resign, or be removed from the Council, the Council may elect a new Council member to serve until the next election of Council members.

Article VII Activities and Field Trips

Section 1. Commercial mushroom collectors or dealers in the sale of mushrooms are encouraged to become members of the Los Angeles Mycological Society, but the society will not allow any of its members to collect mushrooms for sale or commercial purposes during field trips sponsored by the society.

Section 2. Prior to any field trip sponsored by the Los Angeles Mycological Society, each participant will be required to sign a waiver that will release and indemnify the Society and its officers, including the field trip leaders, for responsibility and liability for any accident or mishap that may befall the participant or the participant's minor children during the field trip, or as a result of the field trip, such as mushroom food poisoning, poison oak inflammation, etc.

Article VIII Newsletter

Section 1. A newsletter, The Spore Print, shall be the regular means of communicating notices and reports of LAMS activities.

Section 2. The Spore Print shall be published in a manner determined by the Council; the publication dates shall be monthly from November to May and irregularly from June to October.

Section 3. The Spore Print shall be circulated to each member of LAMS. The Spore Print shall be the official record of the LAMS and contain minutes of the Council and Annual meetings, as well as other items of LAMS interest including ballots, foray notices and other mycological information.

Article IX Dissolution

Section 1. No part of the net worth of the LAMS shall at any time inure to any member or any other individual.

Section 2. Upon the dissolution of the Los Angeles Mycological Society, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future tax code), or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so dispersed of shall be disposed by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office the Los Angeles Mycological Society is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Article X Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the LAMS shall begin January 1 and end on December 31 of the same year.

Article XI Amendment

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended or repealed by two thirds vote of approval of the members present at an annual meeting or by a two thirds vote of members present at a special meeting providing notice of the meeting and text of the proposed bylaw changes are published in The Spore Print at least one month prior to the date of the special meeting. Absentee voting may be carried out with a written proxy from a LAMS member to a member of the Council. A special meeting to amend the bylaws may be called by the membership (Article VI section 5) or by a two thirds vote of the Council.