

**MILTON ULLADULLA ORCHID SOCIETY
INC**

RULES FOR MEMBERS

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1. PREAMBLE:

The rules for Societies like ours are of a standard nature and act as a guide for members. The following Rules supplement the Constitution, but do not take precedent thereof, which are the Society's By-Laws and a legal document. These Rules can be updated from time to time in keeping with changes within the Society. Milton Ulladulla Orchid Society Inc (MUOS) was founded in 1975 and named Southern Riviera Orchid Society. In 2015 the name was changed and the Constitution re written. The Society is affiliated to the Australian Orchid Council (AOC), the peak body for all orchid clubs in Australia. The Council sets national judging standards and organises national orchid shows. MUOS is also associated with the Orchid Council of New South Wales who in turn represent their members on the AOC.

2. MEMBERSHIP & FEES:

Membership fees (including GST) as of October 2019 are: -

Single adult	\$14.00
Joint Membership	\$24.00
Honorary Members	Nil
Life Members	Nil

- a) Fees are reviewed by the Committee annually and their recommendation is confirmed by the members at the Annual General Meeting and are effective from the following July.
- b) Final date for payment of fees is 1st October in the same year, at which time membership shall cease if unpaid.
- c) Unfinancial members lose their voting rights at General & Annual General Meetings and cease to receive correspondence from 1st October in the same year.
- d) New members will have one (1) month to pay their subscription(s) after completing the application form. Each member will be given a membership number, which is held throughout their association with MUOS.
- e) Life Membership may be granted on the recommendation of the Committee, to members who have served the Society in an exemplary manner for a minimum of ten (10) years. Life Membership is the highest honour the Society can bestow and is restricted accordingly. All members may nominate another member for Life Membership by lodging a notification to the President or Secretary in writing.

- f) Honorary Membership may be granted on the recommendation of the Committee to outside persons, for services rendered to the Society. Honorary members are not required to pay membership fees or vote at any meeting.
- g) On the recommendation of the Committee, a member may be awarded the Meritorious Badge, sponsored by the Orchid Society of NSW, to members who have displayed exceptional assistance to the Society's management over a successive period of not less than ten (10) years.
- h) Non-Active members shall not be included in the General List of (Active) Members, shall not be allocated a membership number, but will be included in a separate list of Non-Active Members.

3. MEMBER CLASSIFICATIONS:

All adult members are classified by orchid growing experience into three Sections – Open Section, Intermediate Section and Novice Section for the purpose of benching orchids at annual shows and meetings of the Society.

- a) New and older members who have little or no experience in the growing of orchids will be automatically assigned to the Novice Section.
- b) The Committee will, at the end of each calendar year, decide if a Novice Section or Intermediate Section member should advance to the next level. The Committee will consider its decision based on the standard of orchids benched and awards earned by the member during the calendar year(s) just concluding.

4. BENCHING RULES GENERALLY:

- a) Intermediate Section and Novice Section members may bench in a Section above their status, however Open Section members may only bench in the Open Section.
- b) If a non MUOS member wishes to bench at meetings or shows, that person must bench in the Open Section. Most (but not all) Orchid societies affiliated with the Orchid Society of New South Wales will accept show entries from a member of an Affiliated Club on condition of acceptance of the 'Conditions of Entry' of MUOS.
- c) All plants benched at meetings and shows must have been owned by the person benching for a minimum of six (6) months.
- d) Members who bench plants at meetings, displays or shows must ensure that the plant is free from disease, pest infestation or virus. If a member wishes to ascertain details of such a plant from MUOS, the plant must be transported in a transparent and sealed container.

- e) Intermediate Section is a new concept at MUOS. The Committee decided at its' outset that this Section would not be included at shows until at least 10 (ten) members of this Section were so classified.

5. MEMBERS:

- a) Members should notify the Secretary of any changes in communication details. e.g., address, telephone number or email address.
- b) When a member brings a visitor to any meeting or function, the member should. Introduce the visitor to the President or Chairman of the meeting.
- c) The consumption of alcohol (except for the Christmas Party) or smoking, are not permitted at any meetings, shows or functions sponsored by MUOS.
- d) Club name badges may be ordered from the Treasurer, and club shirts from the Secretary at any time after becoming a member. MUOS encourages both items be worn at all meetings, shows and functions sponsored by MUOS or any other Orchid Society.
- e) Disruptive or disorderly behaviour by members at meetings, shows or functions sponsored by MUOS to the discomfort of others present, is not allowed.

6. MEETINGS:

- a) General Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month - February to December each year, the December meeting being the Christmas Party.
- b) For insurance purposes, members are asked to sign the Attendance Book on arrival.
- c) The Annual General Meeting is held in conjunction with the General Meeting in October.
- d) The elected Committee will hold meetings from time to time, with a minimum of 3 meetings per year.

7. MEMBERS ACTIVITIES:

- a) MUOS organises various functions during the year, such as roving days, BBQ's etc.
- b) a programme of interesting speakers and 'hands on' events are organised for monthly meetings.

- c) Members present at General Meetings may bench their plants and vote for their favourite in each section. Votes are counted, then announced and points are awarded to the first most popular with the members in each class. Point awards are also given to plants that win a Champion, first and second places at Shows.
- d) To introduce members to various genera of orchids and to expand their knowledge of different orchids, each year, a 'grow comp' of a young plant is purchased by the Society and re sold to members, is arranged. Members are encouraged to bring in their plant to monthly meetings for judging. Points are awarded as scheduled in clause 7h below. The first plant to flower wins this competition.
- e) A newsletter is sent to all members each month via either email or post for members without computers will receive it by ordinary mail. The Editor of the newsletter gratefully accepts photos or other news from members. MUOS does not accept any responsibility for content in the newsletter.

d) MUOS also has developed a Web Site which is updated from time to time. It records useful information to the public about our Society.

g) Members can earn points during the year for as detailed below for various events held over the period and are tallied up in November and a trophy awarded to the member with most points.

h) Points awarded for the various benching are as follows –

General meeting benching - 1st Place – 3 points,

Popular vote in each Class - 5 points

Gro Comp – winner is the first plant to flower – 10 points. Monthly benching 1st place – 3 points

Points awarded for Champions & places at **MUOS Shows** – Champion of Show – 10, Reserve Champion – 8, other Champions – 5 points.

At **MUOS sponsored Shows**, where more than 10 plants have been benched in the same Class, the first 3 placegetters will be awarded places. A Certificate of achievement will be awarded to all placegetters.

In all cases, where a winning place is tied, the number of points awarded shall be 5, but the number of winning places, if 3, shall be reduced to 2.

l) The Society has a collection of orchid books and magazines which are available to members to borrow. A Library Register is kept recording borrowing transactions.

8. SALE OF MEMBERS PLANTS:

- a) A member may sell their plants at any Meeting or Show sponsored by MUOS, if member has attended at least three (3) meetings in the previous twelve (12) months.
- b) Plants must be in good condition, free from pests, disease, or virus. Plants must be well established and preferably not recently re-potted. The plant pot must have a tag that records the Members' name and the sale price. If the plant is an Australian Native and likely to be sold to the public, it must contain an additional tag obtainable from the Responsible Committee member.
- c) MUOS will not be liable for any loss or damage that may occur, but every care will be taken.
- d) MUOS will deduct a 10% commission from the sale price of any plant sold.
- e) Should a guest speaker sell plants at a meeting no commission is deducted from the sale price.

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