

Open Salt Collectors By-Laws

Article I. Name

The name of the organization shall be "Open Salt Collectors."

Article II. Purpose

This organization shall be a non-profit, non-commercial organization to promote and encourage the study, collecting and preservation of open salts by publishing a National Newsletter, maintaining an informational web site, promoting membership in open salt collecting clubs, publishing informational and educational articles in collector publications, and through other means as may be appropriate from time to time.

Article III. Meetings

The Executive Board shall meet for regular meetings of the organization held at the National Convention, which is typically held in odd-numbered years. This shall serve as notice of those meetings.

The Executive Board shall also meet at other times as deemed necessary to conduct the business of the organization. Since physical meetings are difficult at best, internet meetings in a chat room lasting at least thirty (30) days will suffice for both notice and voting matters. Internet meetings and telephone conferences are both acceptable methods as long as in compliance with Article XII. The President or a majority of the Executive Board members may call a meeting of the Board.

Article IV. Membership - Member Clubs

1. Any club that has as its focus the study, collecting and preservation of open salts can be a member club. Newly founded clubs in a geographical area other than where clubs already exist that have at least 10 members residing in that area and at least two scheduled meetings per year, publicized either through a newsletter or the website will be eligible after a period of three years to be a Member Club and to have two representatives on the executive board.
2. Executive Board members from member clubs in good standing shall be eligible to vote. Existing Member Clubs are C-MOSS, MOSS, NESOSC, OSCAR, OSSOTW-NC and OSSOTW-SC.
3. Business shall be conducted by a majority of Executive Board members present at the meeting. It is the duty of each Member Club's President to assure their club is represented as in compliance with Article IX.
4. All member clubs in good standing prior to January 1, 2004, shall automatically become charter members.

Article V. Dues/Subscription Fees

The annual dues/subscription fees (from here on known as fees) of \$15 are payable in advance for persons receiving their National Newsletter by regular mail. For subscribers receiving their National Newsletter via email the annual fee is \$10, regardless of location. Fees are due annually to the National Treasurer by January 31 of each year.

Clubs may choose to include National fees with their own membership sign up or renewals and forward them to the National Treasurer by January 31. Anyone may also subscribe to the National Newsletter on their own. Subscribers need not be a member of any club in order to subscribe, and international subscribers are welcome. International fees for mailed copies to be \$20. The annual fees amount can be modified by action of the Executive Board of the organization.

Article VI. Officers

The elected officers shall consist of the President, Vice President/Marketing Director (from hereon known as the Vice President), Treasurer, and Secretary. They must be a dues paid member of a Member Club in good standing. They shall serve for a term of two (2) years. The President shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. There shall be no limit on the number of terms the Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary may serve.

Article VII. Nominations and Elections

Nominations and elections shall take place at the National Convention. No individual shall be nominated without his/her consent. A slate of candidates seeking election or re-election will be published in the National Newsletter edition prior to a convention. This is only as a courtesy to club members and other National Newsletter subscribers. It is not the final slate and nominations from the floor may still be made at the meeting.

Article VIII. Duties of Officers

1. President: The President shall perform the duties usually associated with that office. He/she shall preside at all meetings, appoint committees necessary to meet the aims of the organization, and guide, direct and have general supervision of the organization. The President is ultimately responsible for the National Newsletter, either by doing the job him/herself, or appointing a responsible person(s) to accomplish the tasks as necessary. Initially the National Newsletter will be published with Spring and Fall issues, but this frequency can be changed upon approval of the Executive Board of the organization. Distribution is to be made in accordance with a list of paid subscribers maintained by the Treasurer. The President can appoint an interim Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer should a vacancy occur. The appointee will hold that position and fulfill the duties of that office until the next convention when elections take place. The appointee may then run for that office, or any other office, if they so choose. The President shall also see that the Treasurer's books are audited annually.
2. Vice President: The primary responsibility of the Vice President shall be to promote the hobby of open salt collecting and to promote membership in open salt collecting clubs through marketing in any means necessary to disseminate the available information. The Vice President shall also administer the nomination and voting procedures of the OSC achievement award presented at each convention. (See Article X) The Vice President will assume the duties of the President should that individual resign or otherwise not be able to fulfill his/her responsibilities. Any time in office the VP serves in this manner shall not count towards the two term limit as President.
3. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies of the organization. He/she shall pay with organization funds all debts incurred by the organization, have books available for inspection, and give financial reports at all meetings, as well as publishing and distributing such reports to the member clubs. The Treasurer will also be responsible for collecting annual fees and maintaining a current and composite list of the National Newsletter subscribers. Any organizational checks written with a value of less than \$100 require the signature of only the President or the Treasurer; all checks for \$100 or over require the signatures of both the President and the Treasurer.

4. Secretary: The Secretary shall record and distribute meeting minutes to all Executive Board members. The Secretary shall be responsible for notifying board members of meetings and impending deadlines. Additionally, the President or Vice President may ask the Secretary to perform other tasks such as counting votes or to head a committee as the need may arise. It is very important that the secretary be able to attend the meetings held at the convention.

Article IX. Executive Board

Each member club shall designate two representatives to the Executive Board of Open Salt Collectors. Typically these two representatives will be the President and Vice President of each member club, but this is not a requirement. Each representative, however, must be a regular member in good standing of the club they represent. Additionally, the immediate past President of Open Salt Collectors and the Administrator (“web manager”) of the organization’s web site, www.opensalts.info, shall also be “at-large” members of the Executive Committee and shall participate in Executive Board meetings as voting members. When one or more office and/or board positions are held by one person, only one vote by that person shall be counted.

Board members shall be responsible for presenting the views of their Club at Board meetings and for conveying back to their Club the actions of the Board. In the event that one or both of a club’s regularly designated representatives is/are unable to participate in a meeting of the Executive Board, an alternate (in the case of one representative) or alternates (in the case of two representatives) can be appointed by that member club’s president. Notification of any appointees should be made known to the Secretary prior to the meeting.

Article X OSC Achievement Award

The OSC Achievement Award is to be given to a person who has helped to further the hobby of open salt collecting by making a significant contribution. Voting forms are to be published in all club newsletters and the national newsletter prior to each convention. Votes may be mailed, emailed or phoned in to the Vice President by the cutoff date. Members in good standing of any existing member club are eligible to vote once. Voting results shall be compiled by the Vice President and kept secret until the Convention Banquet at which time the recipient will be honored.

Article XI. Dissolution of Organization

If a majority of the Executive Board decides that the organization is no longer serving its designated function and approves disbanding the organization, any monies left in the Treasury and any assets belonging to the organization will be divided among the member clubs proportionate to the regular membership of those clubs.

Article XII. Amendments

Proposed amendments to the by-laws must be submitted in writing to the Board at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which they will be voted upon. Proposed amendments to the by-laws may be submitted to the Board at any time during the year.

Article XIII. Parliamentary Procedure

Roberts Rules of Order will govern when not in conflict with these bylaws.