

TEXAS GULF COAST FERN SOCIETY

BY-LAWS

Article I – Name

This Organization shall be known as the Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society.

Article II – Objective

The objective will be to cultivate, foster and promote interest in ferns and fern allies.

Article III – Membership

Membership shall be open to anyone having an interest in ferns and the willingness to further the general interest in ferns and fern allies.

Article IV – Dues

Section 1.	Dues shall be as follows:	
	Individual membership	\$ 10.00
	Family membership	15.00
	Student membership	5.00

Section 2. Only members who have paid dues for the calendar year are entitled to all rights and privileges of membership.

Section 3. Members, whose dues are delinquent for 3-months and have been duly notified, shall be automatically dropped from the membership roll.

Section 4. Dues shall be due at the first meeting of the fiscal year that runs from January through December. New members, joining the Society during November or December, shall have their dues credited through the following year.

Article V – Meetings

The regular monthly meeting of the Society shall be held at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Directors.

Article VI – Officers and Executive Board

Section 1. Officers of this Society shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. Officers of this Society shall hold office for a period of one year from the date of their installation at the January meeting or until such later date as their successors are chosen and installed. No Officer may serve in the same office for more than four consecutive terms.

Section 3. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society; appoint committees as set-up in the By-laws or as suggested by the Board of Directors; shall have general supervision over the affairs of the Society; and shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Section 4. The Vice President shall serve as the monthly Program Chairman and preside in the absence of the President.

Section 5. The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society. The Secretary shall keep a true record of all meetings of the Society and the Board of Directors. A copy of these records must be presented to the Newsletter Committee for inclusion in the monthly newsletter. At the completion of the term of office, the Secretary shall turn over all records to the newly elected Secretary.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall have charge of all monies belonging to the Society and shall make disbursements as set out by the Board of Directors or as approved by the Society. The Society will not be responsible for any expenditure exceeding \$60.00 for Board Members and appointed chairpersons or \$25.00 for other members without prior approval of the Board. The Treasurer shall deliver a quarterly financial report to the Newsletter Committee to be included in the appropriate newsletter. At the completion of the term of office, the Treasurer shall turn over all records to the newly elected Treasurer.

Section 7. The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected Officers, the Immediate Past President, plus two Members-at-Large who shall be elected from the general membership at the November meeting.

Section 8. The Board of Directors shall meet at least twice a year at dates to be set by the President. The President may call more meetings of the Board as necessary.

Section 9. The duties of the Board of Directors shall be as follows:

- To formulate plans and policies for the welfare of the Society, subject to approval of the Body.
- To fill vacancies of elected officers.
- To act for the Society in case of emergency.

Article VII – Election of Officers and At-Large Board Members

Section 1. At the regular October meeting, a Nominating Committee consisting of three members shall be established as follows:

- One member to be appointed by the President to act as Chairman of the committee.
- Two members to be elected by the Voting Body as defined in Article IX.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee shall present to the Body one name for each office, as outlined in Article VI, at the November meeting.

Section 3. At the regular November meeting, nominations may be made from the floor for each office. Nominee need not be present provided prior acceptance has been obtained.

Section 4. Election shall be at the November meeting by a majority of members present and voting.

Article VIII

Should an Officer be unable to complete his or her term, the vacancy is to be filled by the Board of Directors. Their selection must be approved by a majority of members present and voting at the next regular meeting. An Officer thus elected shall serve for the expired term of the officer being replaced.

Article IX – Voting

The Voting Body shall consist of members present and voting.

Article X – Parliamentary Procedures

Parliamentary procedures of the Society shall be based on the By-Laws as herein set forth and by the rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order, Revised*.

Article XI – Amendments

These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a majority vote of the members present and voting, provided written notice of the proposed amendments has been sent to each member prior to such meeting.

Article XII – Distribution of Funds Upon Dissolution

A motion to dissolve the Organization may be made only at a general meeting with 30 days prior written notice to the members.

- In order to affect dissolution, at least 2/3 of the members actually present at the meeting must vote to dissolve.
- The Board of Directors shall, after paying or making arrangements for the settlements of all liabilities of the Society, donate all remaining assets for horticultural purposes.