

BYLAWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ASTACOLOGY (IAA)

ARTICLE I :: Name

The name of this Association shall be the International Association of Astacology

ARTICLE II :: Aim and Objectives

Section 1. The aim of the Association is to encourage the scientific study of crayfish for the benefit of mankind.

Section 2. The main objectives are to provide for the dissemination of research findings relating to crayfish and to develop an international forum for free discussion of problems relevant to crayfish.

Section 3. Policy on Introductions:

The Association supports the view that there is a need for the conservation of indigenous crayfish species and for their restoration where they have been eliminated. If crayfish are to be introduced outside their natural range, then Governments should be responsible for undertaking environmental impact assessments to ensure that these crayfish will not harm the native biota, including other species of crayfish, by means of predation and competition, transmitted diseases and parasites. The dangers of introducing crayfish outside their natural range have been highlighted in a *Resolution passed at the Lausanne symposium* in 1987 (see p. xi in *Freshwater Crayfish VII*, 1988). Two further resolutions regarding maintenance of biodiversity and the use of crayfish as flagship species were passed at the Perth symposium in 2000 (see pp. 621-623 in *Freshwater Crayfish 13*, 2002).

ARTICLE III :: Members

Section 1. Membership in the Association shall be open to all persons who share a bona fide interest in the aims and objectives of this Association and who shall have paid the appropriate dues for current membership.

Section 2. Classes of membership shall be identified as Regular, Student, Business, Institutional, Reduced, IAA-Forum Flusskrebse (IAA-FF), Honorary and Gratis.

Section 3. Regular and student members shall pay dues that entitle them to membership for a period of two years. The fiscal period shall be from January 1st of one even year until December 31st of the next odd year. New, first-time, members joining the society within 6 months prior to the end of a

membership cycle shall have their initial dues payment carry over into the next membership period without having to resubmit additional dues.

Section 4. Business members shall be commercial firms who will pay a membership fee double that paid by regular members. Such business members will be acknowledged in the regular society Newsletter.

Section 5. Institutional members shall be identified institutions who may opt to pay a membership fee double that paid by regular members. Such institutional memberships will be acknowledged in the regular society Newsletter published by the Association.

Section 6. Membership dues for the IAA-Forum Flusskrebse (IAA-FF) member category shall consist of a membership fee of US \$7.50 per year per individual FF member, payable to the IAA Permanent Secretariat on or about 30 June each year, for the period 1 January - 31 December of that same year. IAA-FF members will enjoy the same benefits as a fully paid IAA 'Regular' membership for regional conferences, international symposia, and when purchasing IAA-related products, except that IAA-FF members cannot cast votes in the Association's elections.

Section 7. Upon application to the President, astacologists who are unable to pay regular membership dues may petition to be granted Reduced or Gratis membership. The President, President-Elect and Secretary will serve as a committee to approve/disapprove such applications.

Section 8. Upon the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee (see VII.4) and the approval of the Executive Board of the Association, honorary membership can be conferred upon any person who has rendered notable service to the Association. Membership shall be free to such persons.

Section 9. All members, without regard to class of membership, shall have equal rights and privileges in this Association.

Section 10. Any member desiring to resign from the Association shall submit his resignation in writing to the Secretary. Members whose dues remain unpaid for a period of one year shall be considered to have had their membership terminated until such time as membership dues are again paid in full.

Section 11. The membership application shall also allow for member donations to specific dedicated society funds or initiatives, such as the Sture Abrahamsson Memorial Lecture Fund, or others that may be designated by the board in the future.

ARTICLE IV :: Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Association shall be a President, a President-Elect, and a Secretary. These officers shall perform those duties necessary for conducting the business of the Association. Financial matters will be handled by the Permanent Secretariat (see IX) and the primary role of the Secretary will be to encourage membership, organize elections, and produce the society Newsletter (see VIII.1). All

candidates and elected officers of the society shall be members in good standing and shall be full-paying (Regular, Student, or Honorary class) members, and shall maintain their membership status throughout their term of office.

Section 2. A nominations committee, named by the President with approval of the Executive Board, shall nominate candidates for the officers of the Association. It shall be understood that the President-Elect shall be nominated for the office of President, except if the position of President-Elect shall be found to be vacant. Within six months of the next Symposium, election ballots will be made available to the membership through the IAA website. Members without internet access can still submit ballots to the Secretary via postal mail or e-mail. Elections will be conducted by the Secretary under the supervision of the Executive Board. The Secretary will report election results to the Board and announce such results at the General Business Meeting held as part of the Association's Symposium. Write-in candidates for all elected offices will be provided for on the official ballot.

Section 3. The officers so elected shall serve for the interval immediately prior to the close of the General Business Meeting at the Association's Symposium until that time at the next Symposium.

Section 4. No member shall hold more than one office at a time, and no officer shall immediately succeed himself/herself in the same office which he/she has held for a full term of office. No two officers should come from the same country (excluding the Past President), unless the search for a nominee from other countries is unable to identify a suitable or willing candidate. In such a case, the selection of two candidates from the same country must be approved by a majority vote of the executive board.

Section 5. There will be a network of National IAA Correspondents. Such correspondents shall be encouraged to obtain members for the Association and obtain information for the Newsletter (see VIII.1).

Section 6. The current President shall be the guardian of the fossil crayfish presented by Reinhard Spitzky to the Association in 1994. The current President shall be responsible for passing on the said crayfish to the next President when the transfer of office is due.

ARTICLE V :: Meetings - Symposia

Section 1. The Association shall hold a Symposium at intervals of approximately every 2 years. As part of each meeting, a memorial lecture will be given by a distinguished astacologist to commemorate the work of Sture Abrahamsson, a founding member of the Association. This lecture shall be sponsored by the Sture Abrahamsson Memorial Lecture Fund, if sufficient funds are available.

Section 2. A General Business Meeting, normally chaired by the President, shall be held prior to the close of the Association's Symposium.

Section 3. Executive Board Meetings, normally chaired by the President, shall be held prior to the General Business Meeting. The Secretary will take minutes at the Board and Business meetings and distribute them to the officers within two months.

Section 4. Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson of the Executive Board at a symposium upon written request by fifteen percent of those members of good standing attending a symposium. Proxies shall be accepted.

Section 5. Fifteen percent of those full-paying members in good standing attending a symposium shall constitute a quorum for the General Business Meeting. For the purpose of establishing a quorum, and voting for officers of the Association, proxies shall be accepted. Proxies shall be accepted by the President by either written letter, e-mail, or via the IAA website voting system.

ARTICLE VI :: Executive Board

Section 1. The officers of the Association, immediate Past President, and up to seven additional members appointed by the President to serve during their term of office, shall constitute the Executive Board. The committee should contain a member from Australasia, Europe and North America. Each such appointee shall be privileged to recommend his successor subject to the approval of the incoming President.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the Association, and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Association.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall meet during the Association's Symposium and prior to the General Business Meeting at that symposium.

Section 4. The current president of the IAA sister organization, Forum Flusskrebse, shall appoint one permanent member of the Forum Flusskrebse Executive Board to sit as a representative on the IAA Executive Board. This board member will be a non-voting member. This appointment shall allow for the communication and flow of information between the two societies.

ARTICLE VII :: Committees

Section 1. The formation and composition of all committees shall be discussed and formulated at the General Business Meeting of the Association to be held during each symposium, and normally chaired by the President. The President and President-Elect can, if they so wish, canvass potential members before the General Business Meeting. The Chairpersons of all committees should consult with their members on a regular basis in the period between symposia and be in a position to present their findings to the next General Business Committee meeting. All committees should be comprised of a

Chairperson and up to four members, preferably from different geographical regions. Most of the business of the committees will be conducted via correspondence between the Chairperson and the members.

Section 2. A Nominations Committee shall be formed, whose responsibility it shall be to nominate candidates to the offices of this Association. This committee will be chaired by the incoming President.

Section 3. An Honorary Membership Committee, composed of the Honorary Members, shall be formed. It will be chaired by an Honorary Member. The committee shall seek advice on the election of new Honorary Members and report to the Executive Committee. Candidates should be paid-up members of the Association and have made important contributions to astacology and the Association. Nominations shall be sent to the Chairperson of the committee whose name shall appear in the Newsletter.

Section 4. Any special committees shall be named by the President following consultation with the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII :: Publications

Section 1. Newsletter.— A regular Newsletter known as "*Crayfish News*" shall be produced by an Editor(s), who may be one of the officers. Editorial support may be sought from other members. The Newsletter shall have an ISSN number. The Newsletter shall contain items about the Association and its members, announcements, items of astacological interest, and a list of recently published astacological works and theses. Members shall be encouraged to submit such items to the Editor. The Newsletter shall be distributed electronically through the IAA website as a free PDF file to all paid-up members. Members without internet access can request a printed copy of the newsletter by sending a request directly to the newsletter Editor.

Section 2. Membership Directory.— A list of members shall be maintained by the Permanent Secretariat and will be made available as a searchable database through the IAA members-only website. The Secretariat may also elect to produce a downloadable PDF file each year for easy distribution to members.

Section 3. Symposium Proceedings.— Both a printed and electronic volume of proceedings resulting from each Symposium shall be produced by the organizers of that Symposium. It shall be known as "*Freshwater Crayfish*" and shall possess an ISBN number. The copyright for these proceedings shall be assigned solely to the "International Association of Astacology". The volume shall be produced in accordance with the *Freshwater Crayfish Style Guide*. As from *Freshwater Crayfish 9*, the numbering of volumes shall be in Arabic not Roman numerals. All manuscript submissions and reviews will be handled through the IAA Manuscript Submission and Tracking website, thus requiring the submission of manuscripts in electronic format. The Association reserves the right to bill authors for page charges resulting from the publication of their papers in *Freshwater Crayfish*. After publication, the new volume

will be deposited by the Permanent Secretariat into at least 5 major institutional libraries (in Australia, Europe, the USA and/or others deemed appropriate) for archival purposes. A copy shall also be sent to various indexing and abstracting services.

Section 4. There will be a Home Page relating to the IAA on the World Wide Web. All publications produced by the society shall be made available on the members-only portion of the society website. In addition, article abstracts will be made available on the website for general public access.

ARTICLE IX :: Permanent Secretariat

Section 1. Recognizing the need for having a permanent office for the transaction of Association business, the Executive Board may establish a Permanent Secretariat. The Permanent Secretariat shall be responsible for maintaining permanent membership rolls and the Association's principal bank accounts, including a working account and an interest bearing savings account. At least two officers will be official signatories to the referenced bank accounts. It will provide a report on its activities to the Executive Board at each international symposium. It will act upon the direction of the President with the advice and consent of the Executive Board.

Section 2. The secretariat shall also hold, and coordinate the purchase of, ISBN and ISSN numbers for the various society publications.

ARTICLE X :: Amendment of the Bylaws

Section 1. These Bylaws can be amended at any General Business Meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote by those present (proxies shall be accepted), providing that the amendment has been submitted in writing prior to the General Business Meeting and copies have been distributed to all members present at the General Business Meeting.