

Changes in the Amended January 30, 2017 Version of the Bylaws of the Mt. Diablo Audubon Society

The MDAS Bylaws have been amended to update this document to reflect the current organization of the chapter and the relationship of MDAS with National Audubon.

The final amended January 30, 2017 version of the Bylaws has been approved by the MDAS Board. The next step in the process is approval of these Bylaws by a vote of the members of MDAS at a membership meeting. Prior to this meeting, the amended January 30, 2017 version of the Bylaws, and the previous January 2016 version, will be posted on the MDAS website in order that members can review the changes in the Bylaws between the January 2016 and January 2017 versions.

This document is intended to assist in this review by summarizing the major changes in the January 2017 version of the Bylaws, which are as follows:

1. Title: The title of the Bylaws has been changed from “Constitution and Bylaws Mt. Diablo Audubon Society” to “Bylaws Mt. Diablo Audubon Society” as the term “Constitution” is not relevant to this document. “Constitution” also was removed from the subheading.

2. Article III. Membership:

- Section titled “Bylaws” was changed to “Article III. Membership” to clarify the content and formatting.
- The second paragraph in Section 4 of Article III, which refers to Associate Members, was deleted, as this information does not align with MDAS policy.
- Sections 5 and 6 of Article III were modified to better clarify the process for renewal of membership

3. Article IV. General Membership Meetings: The use of email notification for special meetings was added to Section 2

4. Article V. Officers:

- Section 3: A statement about the Vice President serving as spokesperson for conservation activities was removed as this is not a current duty for this officer.
- Section 4: The duties of Secretary were clarified, and the statement about recording minutes at meetings moved to Article VI.
- Section 5: The reporting duties of the Treasurer were clarified.

5. Article VI. Board of Directors:

- Section headings were added for clarity.
- Section 2: A new statement was added to specify that the number of Board members shall be neither less than 12 nor more than 20.

- Section 6: A new option was added to allow for participation in Board meetings remotely using electronic communication methods.
- Section 7: The statement about recording the minutes of Board meetings was moved to here from Article V.

6. Article VIII. Committees:

- This section was extensively revised by the creation two types of committees: Board Committees, for which the chairperson must be a Board member, and Advisory committees, for which the chairperson does not need to be a Board member.
- The functions of the Board and Advisory committees were clarified and expanded in order to align with the current committee structure and duties.
- The Executive Director was removed from the list of Board committees as this position is not currently required.

7. Article IX. Relationship with NAS:

- The previous Articles VII and VIII (from the Jan. 2016 version of the Bylaws) were removed, as this information was no longer relevant. These articles were replaced with Article. IX, which states that MDAS's relationship with National Audubon is governed by the National Audubon Chapter Policy statement of May 17, 2014.

8. Article X. Amendments: This process was clarified to indicate that the Bylaws may be amended by a majority of a quorum of at least 50 members at a membership meeting.

9. Article XI. Territory: The description of the territory was clarified. In addition, a sentence referring to associate membership was removed.

10. Miscellaneous: Formatting changes and correction of minor typographical errors were made throughout the Bylaws. In addition, reference to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society was abbreviated to MDAS and reference to the National Audubon Society changed to NAS.