

Oxford Soil and Crop Improvement Association
Constitution

Draft for Review and Approval

December 15, 2021

Oxford Soil and Crop Improvement Association

Current	Proposed Changes
Where under the by-laws of the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association, Section 15 , it is stated that a county or district branch of the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association may be formed in any regional district or county in the province; therefore, it is enacted that this Branch be known as the Oxford Soil and Crop Improvement Association and to be governed under the constitution and by-laws set out as follows:	Where under the by-laws of the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association, Section 13 , it is stated that a county or district branch of the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association may be formed in any regional district or county in the province; therefore, it is enacted that this Branch be known as the Oxford Soil and Crop Improvement Association and to be governed under the constitution and by-laws set out as follows:

Constitution

Current	Proposed Changes
1. Objectives Oxford Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OxSCIA) shall strive to be dedicated to efficient soil management and crop production, and to encourage stewardship of farmland and improvement of field crop production in Oxford County by:	1. Objectives The objectives of the Oxford Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OxSCIA) shall be the same as for the Ontario Association as they are applicable to Oxford County. To encourage stewardship of farmland and improvement of field crop production in Oxford County by:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stressing the importance of soil fertility as a basis for soil conservation and for the production of crops of high yield and nutritive value. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging control of soil erosion through soil management practices such as tillage, crop rotation, ditch bank stabilization, grassed waterways, windbreaks and crop residue management, etc. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging the wider adoption of such crops and varieties as are best suited to the soils and climatic conditions of the county. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a greater interest in the preparation, use and production of high quality seed, grain and forage. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding meetings and field days for the discussion of all matters relating to crop production and crop and soil improvement and assisting in the holding of such meetings and field days. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducting and directing educational work, demonstrations and projects throughout the county for the dissemination of a wider knowledge of field husbandry and soil management such as designed to bring about a realization of the aims and objects herein set forth. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-operating with agricultural and other interested organizations and individuals in holding of soil improvement and field crop competitions, conservation and farm management award programs and seed fairs. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collecting and disseminating market information, field crop recommendations and regulations governing production, marketing and purchase of seed of field crops. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage research as needed to further the aims and objectives of the Association. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging research as needed to further the aims and objectives of the Association.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage energy conservation in crop production, storage and handling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging energy conservation in crop production, storage, and handling.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-operating with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food & Rural Affairs and Agriculture Canada in furthering these objectives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-operating with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in furthering these objectives.
<p>2. Members Any person who is interested in the production and improvement of soils and field crops in Oxford County shall be eligible for membership.</p>	
<p>3. By-Laws <u>Membership Fee</u> The membership fee shall be paid to the Association and shall be \$20.00 per member per year or \$50.00 for three years. This fee may be adjusted by a majority vote at a duly called Annual Meeting.</p>	<p>3. By-Laws <u>Membership Fee</u> The membership fee shall be paid to the Association and shall be \$50.00 per member per year or \$120.00 for three years. This fee may be adjusted by a majority vote at a duly called Annual Meeting. <i>Effective for membership renewals for 2023 and beyond.</i></p>
<p>4. <u>Annual Special and Directors' Meetings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held prior to January 15th each year, at such time and place as decided by the Board of Directors. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notice of the Annual or Special Meeting shall be mailed to members in writing at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notice of the Annual or Special Meeting shall be communicated to members in writing at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Annual Meeting shall be presided over by the President or in his absence, the Vice-President, or in his absence, someone appointed by the President. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Annual Meeting shall be presided over by the President or in their absence, the Vice-President, or in their absence, someone appointed by the President.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The program of the Annual Meeting shall include: minutes of the previous Annual Meeting, auditor's report and financial statement, report of the year's activities, election of Directors, and appointment of auditors for the coming year. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Annual or Special Meetings, a quorum shall be 20% of the membership. For Directors' Meetings a quorum shall be 30% of the Directorate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Annual or Special Meetings, a quorum shall be 20% of the membership. For Directors' Meetings a quorum shall be 50% of the Directorate.
<p>5. <u>Executive</u> The Executive of the Association shall be the Past President, President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, and 3rd Vice-President as elected by the general membership at the Annual Meeting. No person may hold the office for President for more than one consecutive year. President and Vice-President must be duly elected directors who have preferably completed two three-year terms.</p>	
<p>6. <u>Directors</u> Directors shall be elected annually from the membership, to consist of at least one, to a maximum of three, Directors from each township. The maximum term of office for Directors shall be two three-year terms. Former Directors who have served their maximum term will be eligible for re-election following a one-year absence from the Directorate. Any Director absent from two consecutive Directors' meetings without valid reason may be asked to withdraw from the Association Directorate at the discretion of the Board Directors.</p>	
<p><u>Provincial Director</u> OxSCIA shall nominate one person at the fall directors meeting, by vote if necessary and when required, to stand for election of Provincial Director at the Thames Valley Regional Soil and Crop Improvement Association meeting, prior to the Ontario Soil</p>	<p><u>Provincial Director</u> OxSCIA shall nominate one person at the fall Director's meeting, by vote if necessary and when required, to stand for election of Provincial Director at the Thames Valley Regional Soil and Crop Improvement Association meeting, prior to</p>

& Crop Improvement Association Annual Meeting.	the Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association Annual Meeting.
<p>7. <u>Board of Directors</u> The Board of Directors shall consist of the Executive and elected Directors.</p>	
<p>8. <u>Election of Directors</u> A Nominating Committee consisting of the President, Vice-President and 2nd Vice-President shall prepare a suggested slate of Directors to be presented at the Annual Meeting. Further nominations for Directors may be accepted from the floor at the Annual Meeting. In event of an election being necessary, a vote by show of hands or by secret ballot shall decide who is to fill the office and will be decided at the Annual Meeting.</p>	
<p>9. <u>Vacancy of Office</u> If a vacancy occurs from any cause in any office or on the Board of Directors of the Association, the Nominating Committee may appoint a member to complete the unexpired term of office.</p>	
<p>10. <u>Duties</u> <u>Board of Directors</u> – Having been duly elected, the Board of Directors shall be responsible for conducting all the affairs of the Association for the year. The Board of Directors shall form committees to manage Association activities as required.</p>	
<u>Committee Chairman</u> – Shall provide a written report for the Annual Meeting.	
<u>Past-President</u> – The Past-President shall assist the President as needed, and may stand in as chair of meetings, and representative to the Thames Valley Regional Soil & Crop Improvement Association.	
<u>President</u> – The President or his designate shall chair all meetings of the Association and shall be responsible for calling Board Meetings or Special Meetings of the Association. The President shall attend the OSCIA Annual and Special Meetings as the voting delegate, and act as a representative to the Thames Valley Regional Soil & Crop Improvement Association.	<u>President</u> – The President or their designate shall chair all meetings of the Association and shall be responsible for calling Board Meetings or Special Meetings of the Association. The President shall attend the OSCIA Annual and Special Meetings as the voting delegate, and act as a representative to the Thames Valley Regional Soil & Crop Improvement Association.

<p><u>Vice-President</u> – The Vice-President shall assist the President wherever possible and in the case of absence of the President, the 1st Vice-President will assume the President's duties. The 1st and/or 2nd Vice-President shall attend the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association Annual and Special Meetings as alternate delegate(s) and act as a representative to the Thames Valley Regional Soil & Crop Improvement Association. The 1st Vice-President shall chair the tour committee to organize the Association's annual bus trip.</p>	
<p><u>2nd Vice-President</u> – The 2nd Vice-President shall chair the field crop and major project committee to organize and follow up on all plot projects.</p>	
<p><u>3rd Vice-President</u> – The 3rd Vice-President shall chair the meetings committee to organize general meetings.</p>	
<p><u>Secretary-Treasurer</u> – The Secretary-Treasurer shall be in charge of all books of the Association, sign cheques, and look after the correspondence of the Association and any other duties as directed by the Board of Directors. This will be a paid position at the discretion of the Board of Directors.</p>	<p><u>Secretary-Treasurer</u> – The Secretary-Treasurer shall record minutes of Directors', Special, and Annual meetings, be in charge of all books of the Association, sign cheques, and look after the correspondence of the Association and any other duties as directed by the Board of Directors. This will be a paid position at the discretion of the Board of Directors.</p>
<p><u>Fiscal Year End</u> The fiscal year end is to be November 30th.</p>	
<p><u>Recording-Secretary</u> – The Recording-Secretary shall record minutes of Directors, Special and Annual Meetings.</p>	<p><i>removal of this position</i></p>
<p><u>Association Representatives</u> – The Executive shall appoint a representative to attend meetings of affiliated organizations (such as) the Thames Valley Regional Soil & Crop Improvement Association, Environmental Farm Plan Peer Review Committee, The Farm Safety Association, Outdoor Farm Show Planning Committee, Southwest Ag Conference Planning Committee, Oxford Landsavers Award.</p>	<p><u>Association Representatives</u> – The Executive shall appoint a representative to attend meetings of affiliated organizations (such as) the Thames Valley Regional Soil & Crop Improvement Association, Outdoor Farm Show Planning Committee, Southwest Ag Conference Planning Committee, Oxford Stewardship Award and any other committee or association opportunities that arise.</p>
<p>Amendments to By-Laws This constitution and these by-laws may be changed, altered or repealed by majority vote of the quorum present at the Annual Meeting of the Association, following notice of motion being sent to all members 15 days prior to the Annual Meeting.</p>	

