



BYLAWS OF THE TENNESSEE COUNCIL OF NATIONALLY ACCREDITED FLOWER SHOW JUDGES (TCNAFSJ)

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Tennessee Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges (TCNAFSJ). This Council is a member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC) and the Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. (TFGC).

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

Section 1. To promote the study of the Handbook for Flower Shows at the district and/or local level.

Section 2. To promote fair and proper judging of Standard Flower Shows throughout the state.

Section 3. To promote and sponsor flower shows, programs and workshops relative to Standard Flower Shows.

Section 4. To promote and/or sponsor flower show schools and/or symposiums within the state.

Section 5. To encourage all new judges to join a local Judges Council and welcome new members into the organization.

Section 6. To conduct periodic meetings where by district or local councils clarify changes in the Handbook, share activities and resolve judging concerns.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. Eligibility

- A. Must be a member of a NGC Federated Garden Club.
- B. Have a certificate as an Accredited NGC Flower Show Judge (level 1-4) in good standing or an Emeritus-Master Judge (level 5, good standing not required).
- C. All levels of judges are eligible to vote at TCNAFSJ meetings.

Section 2. The dues of **six (6.00) dollars** per member shall be collected by the four District Judges Council Treasurers, who in turn will submit the dues to the TCNAFSJ Judges Council Treasurer. The dues are payable by April 1st and delinquent after June 1st, in order to be eligible for awards.

Section 3. TCNAFSJ shall not discriminate based on gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or disability.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Section 1. Election of Officers

The officers of this organization shall be **Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer**. The Officers shall rotate from District to District in numerical order I, II, III, and IV. They shall be elected by members of the Judges Council in the District from which the officers are to come and be presented for approval at the TCNAFSJ Annual Meeting. The four (2) State Judges Council officers may be, but do not have to be, the same as the District Judges Council Officers. The term of office shall run concurrently with the TFGC administration. A majority vote of the members present and voting shall be necessary for the election.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Section 2. Duties

A. The **Chairman** shall preside at all meetings of this organization and fulfill obligations of the office. The chairman shall appoint a **Parliamentarian, Chaplain** and all **Chairmen** as needed for the activities of the organization. The Chairman shall notify the District Judges Council Chairmen that an oral and written report is required at the Annual meeting. The chairman shall immediately send to each District Judges Council Chairman any new information received from NGC. Prior to January 1 of TFGC election year, the chairman shall notify the next District in rotation to choose the slate of officers.

B. The **Vice-Chairman** shall serve as Program Chairman and preside at meetings in the absence of the Chairman.

C. The **Secretary** shall keep the minutes of all meetings of this organization and send a copy to each meeting to the Judges Council Chairmen of District I, II, III and IV.

D. The **Treasurer** shall keep an accurate record of all funds received and expended and at each meeting shall give an itemized report.

E. The **Executive Board** shall consist of the elected officers and the Chairmen of the four District Judges Councils and the TCNAFSJ Parliamentarian. Should a vacancy occur in the elected officers, the Executive Board shall fill the office by naming a member from the same District to serve.

F. Appointed Officers

1. The **Parliamentarian** shall be knowledgeable about parliamentary procedures and assist the presiding officer and the Council when asked.

2. The **Chaplain** shall present invocations and conduct a Memorial Service at the TCNAFSJ Annual meeting.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section 1. A TCNASFJ Annual meeting shall be held during the scheduled TFGC Annual Meeting. Eight (8) members with representation from all Districts shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. The Chairman shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five (5) members. A special meeting with three (3) members of the Executive Board plus two (2) other members present for a total of five (5) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of this organization. A ten (10) day notice shall be sent to each District Judges Council Chairman and the Secretary of TCNAFSJ, stating date, time, place and purpose of meeting.

ARTICLE VI - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern TCNAFSJ.

ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENT

These bylaws may be amended at any TCNAFSJ Annual meeting by two third (2/3) vote of those present, provided that previous notice of the amendment was given to all members at least six (6) weeks in advance.

ARTICLE VIII - DISSOLUTION

Should TCNAFSJ dissolve or cease to exist for any reason, the Executive Board at the time shall decide the disbursement of the assets belonging to TCNAFSJ. No officer, member or group of members of the council shall benefit from the disbursement of any of the assets.

Bylaws revisions: 1987, 1988....2009 drafted for approval in 2009, drafted in June 2014 for approval at the TCNAFSJ Annual Meeting April 2015. A 2018 revision was approved at the TFCNAFSJ Annual Meeting in June 2018.

STANDING RULES

1. The TCNAFSJ encourages subscription to the *National Gardener* publication.
2. The TCNAFSJ expects members to keep their *Handbook of Flower Shows* updated with revisions in *The National Gardener* and the NGC website.
3. Outgoing officers and chairmen shall pass all records to incoming officers and chairmen.
4. The TCNAFSJ will make recommendations to the TFGC President pertaining to all Flower Show Chairmen, such as Evaluation, Credentials, Schedule Review, Flower Show Schools and Symposiums.
5. The TCNAFSJ will sponsor the TFGC Staging Award, a gold rosette. (The District Awards Chairman will send, to the State Awards Chairman, a copy of the highest scoring staging form turned in to each District. The State Awards Chairman will reward the top scoring flower show staging in each District at the TFGC Convention. The top scorer must adhere to the NGC and TFGC award rules for staging).