

## **Statutes of the Nordic-Baltic Bee Council**

### **Objectives**

The objective of The Nordic-Baltic Bee Council (NBBC) is to promote knowledge and understanding of all aspects of beekeeping, bee science and the bee products industry. Its major role is to encourage and facilitate relations between representatives from beekeepers organisations, the honey industry, research scientists and advisers in the Nordic-Baltic countries and to stimulate development of all aspects mentioned above.

### **Organisation**

The Nordic-Baltic Bee Council is a non-profit co-operation between the following national beekeepers associations: Danmarks Biavlerforening (Danish Beekeepers Association), Eesti Mesinike Liit. (Estonian Beekeepers Association), Latvijas Biokopības biedrība (Latvian Beekeepers Association), Lietuvos Bitininkų Sąjunga (Lithuanian Beekeepers Union), Norges Birøkterlag (Norwegian Beekeepers Association), Suomen Mehiläishoitajain Liitto R.Y. (Finnish Beekeepers Association) and Sveriges Biodlares Riksförbund (Swedish Beekeepers Association).

### **Council**

The Nordic-Baltic Bee Council consists of one representative from each of the national beekeepers association mentioned under §2.

The chairman of the council is elected among the members of the council for one year. The chief executive officer is not elected but is appointed by the same organisation as the chairman. The turn of office is from the ending of one ordinary meeting to the end of the meeting the following year.

The chairman is responsible for calls for meetings, chair meetings and keeping contacts to the participants and the organisations between the meetings.

### **Council meeting**

The council meets once a year in the period between October and March in connection to the yearly bee-congress. Between these meetings a meeting can take place if at least three organisations call for it. Minutes of the meeting will be approved by one person elected at the meeting. Within one month from the meeting is ended the approved minutes shall be sent to the secretariat of the member organisations and to all participants of the council.

Calls for the meetings must be sent to the secretariats of the member organisations no later than two months before the meeting.

Proposal for discussions can only be made by the member organisations. Proposals to the agenda must be sent to the chairman no later than one month before the meeting.

When the council has made decisions they are handed over to the chairman of the board. The chairman shall then within two months:

A. send the decisions to the respective associations with a responsum for final adoption. The member organisations shall before 31 November the same year send their opinion about the decisions to the chairman.

B. officially inform the member organisations about the decision made by the Nordic-Baltic Bee Council.

By agreement by all associations the board can act as an independent body with the right to contact authorities.

Each board member can bring a deputy to the meetings.

The participants or the participants' organisation pay travel and accommodation costs for participants in the meetings.

### Activities

The main target for the council is to

- organize a yearly congress
- initiate co-operative projects
- contact authorities to improve the condition for beekeepers
- initiate co-operation among beekeepers

in the Nordic-Baltic countries.

### Congress

The boards' main task is to organize a congress every year.

<b>The participants invited to the congress are representatives from:</b>	<b>Maximum delegates from each country in case of lack of space in the congress hall</b>
The national beekeepers associations represented in the board	10
Other national beekeepers associations. To be represented the association must be open and democratic, organise more than 5% of the beekeepers or hives in the country and have existed more than 3 years	5
Representatives from the honey industry	3
Representatives from the bee-equipment dealers	3
Scientists working on topics related to bees or beekeeping.	10
Advisers working with bees or beekeeping topics, in addition to the staff of the beekeepers associations (must have 25% or more of his/her income from this topic)	3
Representatives from governmental organisations working with bees or beekeeping topics	3

In addition to the people mentioned above speakers can be invited to the congress.