

# CONSTITUTION FOR CO-OPERATION BETWEEN EUROPEAN FUCHSIA SOCIETIES - REVISED AND AGREED SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2011 -

## 1 Title

European fuchsia societies joined together in 1984 under the name of Euro-Fuchsia. Euro-Fuchsia developed into a platform for information exchange and co-operation for European fuchsia societies, institutes and individuals interested in fuchsia propagation.

## 2 Objects

The purpose of Euro-Fuchsia is for closer co-operation between the European Fuchsia Societies and the promotion of fuchsia cultivation and education. This will be achieved in the following ways:

- a. All standard publications will be exchanged directly by internet between the societies and institutes (standards for the exchange see annex A).
- b. Unless otherwise stated, material published by any society within Euro-Fuchsia may be used as published or translated freely, without charge, by any other society of Euro-Fuchsia in its own publications. Provided that the source and the author are acknowledged.
- c. The societies will co-operate in the general education, fuchsia research and matters concerning species/cultivars.
- d. Representatives of the societies will meet at least once a year.
- e. Notice of all planned exhibitions and their dates will be published by internet as far in advance as possible. If a member of one society participates in an exhibition of another society, the rules of the society arranging the exhibition will apply unless otherwise agreed.
- f. Euro-Fuchsia will set up a secretariat which will principally co-ordinate its work.
- g. Secretary will receive compensation of the costs incurred with his/her duties to a maximum amount. This amount will be determined each year by the representatives for the following year.
- h. Each society will permit access to its entire website - if members-only-pages are established - to the liaison officer and his deputy.
- i. Each society will designate a liaison officer and deputy. Any change will be communicated by internet to the other societies and the secretary without delay. The liaison officer and his deputy will receive publications (item a.) and if applicable key words for internet access (item h.).

## 3 Membership

- a. All nation wide acting and regional societies, institutes and groups as well as individuals that are engaged in the cultivation, promotion and propagation of fuchsias and are prepared to promote co-operation according to section 2 of this constitution may be members of Euro-Fuchsia. The membership is not restricted to societies, institutes, groups and individuals only from Europe.
- b. The application for membership of a new society has to be filed with the secretariat for the next meeting.
- c. Members will review the applicant's aims, work and situation and vote on the application.
- d. New members will require the agreement of two thirds of the members entitled to vote.
- e. Entitled to vote are currently only those members, who have been member already in 2010. This regulation has to be reviewed at the meeting in 2013.
- f. Every society or institute has the right to leave Euro-Fuchsia at any moment. There can be no claim against the assets of Euro-Fuchsia.
- g. A society who - in spite of a reminder - has not paid the subscription for more than 3 years is automatically removed without any claim to the assets. The claim on any outstanding subscription continues.

#### **4 Language of Euro-Fuchsia**

- a. As a basic principle the English language will be used during the Euro-Fuchsia meetings.
- b. The English language will also be used for Euro-Fuchsia minutes, announcements and other publications.

#### **5 Secretariat**

At the annual meeting members will elect a secretary for the following year, who will handle the daily business of Euro-Fuchsia. Re-election is possible and desired. The responsibilities are:

- a. Co-ordination and distribution of all necessary information dealing with member societies, institutes and their representatives.
- b. Support of general education, fuchsia research, selection, registration and testing if required.
- c. Support of the member hosting the annual meeting.
- d. Design and updating the webpage of Euro-Fuchsia.
- e. Preparation and post processing of the annual meeting in co-operation with the host.
- f. Determine in consultation with the chairman the agenda of the meeting.
- g. Management of the Euro-Fuchsia finances to include budgeting.

#### **6 Annual meeting**

- a. Any member society can host the annual meeting of Euro-Fuchsia. The invitation for the following year's meeting, must be issued at each annual meeting and should include a binding date.
- b. It is the responsibility of the host society to elect a chairman and a vice-chairman from their membership.
- c. The chairman of the host society will chair the meeting.
- d. The responsibilities of the delegates are:
  - Direct the Euro-Fuchsia workload during the accounting and following years
  - Discuss matters concerning Euro-Fuchsia with the members
  - Be a platform for Euro-Fuchsia and its members
- e. The responsibilities will not only include the formal meeting of the members, but also visits to fuchsia gardens or exhibitions, lectures on fuchsia's or related matters, or other efforts to achieve the above aims.
- f. A written/mailed invitation with a supporting program will be sent to all members as soon as possible, but not less than two months before the date of a meeting.
- g. Any society wishing to include business on the agenda must submit suggestions to the secretary not later than three months before a meeting.
- h. The secretary in consultation with the chairman will prepare the agenda of a meeting on the basis of the suggestions received and will send the agenda to the representatives of the societies not later than two months before the meeting.
- i. Each society may send two official representatives to a meeting. The host society will decide what expenses it can bear. Travel expenses and any further expenses will be borne by the representatives or their societies.
- j. The language in the meeting is English. Any requirement for translation will be arranged by the representatives themselves.
- k. In any voting, each society entitled to vote will have one vote - irrespective of the number of its members - and a simple majority will decide.
- l. The amount of the annual subscription will be determined in a resolution passed by the representatives of the societies. For the current amount see annex B.
- m. The representatives of the societies will reach agreement on how the subscriptions are used.
- n. The balancing of the cash account will be done by the secretariat of Euro-Fuchsia.
- o. The cash audit is done by two auditors, who are designated at the meeting by the participants.

p. The auditors will give their report at the end of each meeting.

## 7 Disbandment

- a. Euro-Fuchsia can be dissolved by decision a majority of three-quarters of the current members. The intended dissolution must be on the agenda of the meeting.
- b. On the dissolution of Euro-Fuchsia the assets will be divided as follows:
  - 1. Any unpaid accounts are claimed and paid.
  - 2. All liabilities are discharged.
  - 3. Any remaining assets will be divided between the member societies on a basis of the contribution/subscription made in the last year.

Any situation not covered by these principles will be decided by the meeting.

## Annex A

### Standards for the exchange of publications

- printed publications (colour print)..... pdf file \*<sup>1</sup>)
- printed publications (black and white) ..... pdf file or Word document (.doc)
- single pictures ..... jpg file
- letters, written information ..... pdf file or Word document (.doc)

## Annex B

### Annual suscription in € for 2011 and the following years

#### kind of membership

nation wide acting societies and societies entitled to vote	50,00
regional societies, instututes and groups	25,00
individuals	10,00

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<sup>1</sup>) smallest file size; readable with Acrobat Reader or equivalent software