

# ACADEMY OF DERMATOLOGY VETERINARY TECHNICIANS CONSTITUTION

## ARTICLE I NAME

This organization shall be known as the Academy of Dermatology Veterinary Technicians (ADVT) and hereinafter shall be referred to within this document as the “Academy”.

## ARTICLE II INCORPORATION

- Section 1** The Academy shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of Minnesota as a not for profit organization organized exclusively for educational purposes, within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code).
- a.** Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the Academy shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation/organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code) or (b) by a corporation/organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code).
  - b.** No substantial part of the activities of the Academy shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Academy shall not participate in, or intervene in, (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.
- Section 2** No part of the net earnings of the Academy shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, officers, or other private persons, except that the Academy shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of Section 501(c)(3) purposes.
- Section 3** The term for which the Academy is organized shall be perpetual. However, in the event of dissolution of the Academy, all of its assets and property shall be distributed evenly between the American College of Veterinary Dermatology (ACVD), American Academy of Veterinary Dermatology (AAVD), Canadian Academy of Veterinary Dermatology (CAVD) and the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA).

However, if the named recipient(s) is not then in existence, no longer a qualified distributee, or is unwilling or unable to accept the distribution, then the assets of the Academy shall be distributed to a Veterinary Technician and /or animal welfare fund, foundation, or corporation organized and operated exclusively for

the purposed specified in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code).

### **ARTICLE III STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

**Section 1      MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Academy of Dermatology Veterinary Technicians (ADVT) is to promote excellence through specialization in the discipline of veterinary dermatology by demonstrating an advanced proficiency of dermatologic procedures, working with the veterinary team and client to advocate superior patient care, and providing cutting-edge continuing education.

**Section 2      PURPOSE**

The Academy provides a process by which veterinary technicians may become certified as a Veterinary Technician Specialist (VTS) in the field of dermatology thereby increasing the competence of those practicing in the field of veterinary dermatology. The purpose of the Academy is to enhance the skills and knowledge of veterinary technicians and promote credentialed technicians as integral members of the veterinary dermatology team.

**Section 3      OBJECTIVES**

- a. Promote advancement and high standards of practice for those accredited veterinary technicians involved in veterinary dermatology.
- b. Establish education and experience prerequisites leading to certification in the veterinary technician specialty of dermatology.
- c. Examine and certify veterinary technicians as specialized team members in veterinary dermatology.
- d. Encourage research and other contributions to knowledge relating to dermatology.
- e. Promote continuing education and dissemination of knowledge relating to veterinary dermatology.

### **ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1**      The members of the Academy shall be known as “Veterinary Technician Specialist” – Dermatology (VTS – Dermatology).

**Section 2**      VTS – Dermatology shall be further classified as one of the following:

**a.      Charter Member**

Charter VTS (Dermatology): Veterinary Technicians having achieved distinction in the field of veterinary dermatology and having qualifications far exceeding those proposed as necessary for candidates desiring to take the certifying exam. Members of the Organizing Committee will be granted Charter Membership once the Academy receives provisional recognition by NAVTA. When the first group

of applicants to the Academy have acquired Active Member status, Charter Members will also become Active Members upon majority vote of the Regents.

**b. Active Member**

A veterinary technician of high ethical and moral character who has fulfilled the requirements for certification as set forth in the Bylaws of the Academy of Dermatology Veterinary Technicians. Active members shall be graduates of an AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association) or CVMA (Canadian Veterinary Medical Association) accredited program, and/or credentialed, fulfill the eligibility requirements, pass the examination, and be current on all financial obligations to the Academy. Applicants from another country shall be credentialed by their country of residence.

**c. Retired Member**

An applicant for Retired Membership shall be an active VTS for a minimum of 10 years who has reached the age of 62 and who is no longer actively engaged in veterinary medicine. Retired members will become non-dues paying members with all the rights and privileges afforded an active member.

**d. Honorary Member**

Honorary membership may be awarded to an individual or a group who has made substantial contributions to the advancement of veterinary technicians in the field of veterinary dermatology. Honorary members may be elected by majority vote of Academy members. Honorary members may participate in ADVT meetings but may not vote or hold office and are exempt from paying of dues. The VTS designation cannot be held by an honorary member.

## **ARTICLE V ORGANIZATION / ADMINISTRATION**

**Section 1** The Council of Regents (hereafter referred to as the Regents) shall be the executive body of the Academy and shall consider first all business and policies pertaining to the affairs of the Academy. The Regents will consist of the elected offices (President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and the Member at Large), the President and Past President.

**Section 2** Following provisional recognition, the first Regents shall consist of President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Member at Large and shall be appointed by the organizing committee of the Academy.

**Section 3** Thereafter, the Regents will be elected by the voting members of the Academy.

## **ARTICLE VI OFFICERS**

**Section 1** The elected officers of the Academy shall be the President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Member at Large. The President and Past-President are non-elected officers. These officers shall be voting members of the Regents.

**Section 2** The President-Elect shall automatically become President at the termination of their predecessor's term of office. The President shall automatically become Past-President at the termination of their term as president.

**Section 3** Election of President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Member at Large shall take place biennially (every two years) by mail or secure electronic ballot prior to the business meeting of the Academy. The officers shall begin their term of office immediately following completion of the business meeting in the year elections are held.

## **ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES**

**Section 1** This organization shall have the following standing committees: Nominating, Credentials Approval, Examination, Re-certification, Continuing Education, and Financial Affairs Committees. Additional committees may be appointed by the President.

**Section 2** The President, with the advice of the Regents, shall appoint a Chairperson and members to all committees.

## **ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1** The members may amend, alter or repeal any part of the Constitution by an affirmative vote, provided the substance of the proposed amendment shall have been communicated to the membership. Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted to the Regents for review ninety days before a scheduled meeting of the Academy, the distribution of a mail ballot, or secure electronic ballot to the membership. Proposed amendments shall be distributed to the voting membership with a recommendation by the Regents at least thirty days prior to a voice vote, the distribution of a mail, or secure electronic ballot.

**Section 2** An affirmative vote shall require that at least one third of the members in good standing vote, and at least two thirds of the members voting approve the proposal.