



The Legion of Rowers Incorporated

Constitution

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CONSTITUTION

Name

The name of the society is The Legion of Rowers Incorporated (in this Constitution referred to as the '**Society**').

Charitable status

The Society intends, after incorporation, to be registered as a charitable entity under the Charities Act 2005.

Definitions

In this **Constitution**, unless the context requires otherwise, the following words and phrases have the following meanings:

'**Act**' means the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 or any Act which replaces it (including amendments to it from time to time), and any regulations made under the Act or under any Act which replaces it.

'**Annual General Meeting**' means a meeting of the Members of the **Society** held once per year which, among other things, will receive and consider reports on the **Society's** activities and finances.

'**President**' means the **Officer** responsible for chairing General Meetings and Committee Meetings, and who provides leadership for the **Society**.

'**Immediate Past President**' means the **Officer** who deputises in the absence of the **President**.

'**Committee**' means the **Society's** governing body.

'**Constitution**' means the rules in this document.

'**General Meeting**' means either an **Annual General Meeting** or a **Special General Meeting** of the Members of the Society.

'**Interested Member**' means a Member who is interested in a **Matter** for any of the reasons set out in section 62 of the **Act**.

'**Interests Register**' means the register of interests of **Officers**, kept under this Constitution and as required by section 73 of the **Act**.

'**Matter**' means the **Society's** performance of its activities or exercise of its powers; or an arrangement, agreement, or contract (a transaction) made or entered into, or proposed to be entered into, by the **Society**.

'**Member**' means a person who has consented to become a Member of the **Society**, and has been properly admitted to the **Society**, who has not ceased to be a Member of the **Society**.

'**Notice**' to Members includes any **Notice** given by email.

'**Officer**' means a natural person who is:

- a member of the **Committee**, or
- occupying a position in the **Society** that allows them to exercise significant influence over the management or administration of the **Society**, including any Chief Executive or Treasurer.

'**Register of Members**' means the **Register of Members** kept under this Constitution as required by section 79 of the **Act**.

'**Secretary**' means the **Officer** responsible for the **Matters** specifically noted in this Constitution.

'**Special General Meeting**' means a meeting of the Members, other than an **Annual General Meeting**, called for a specific purpose or purposes.

'**Working Days**' mean as defined in the Legislation Act 2019. Examples of days that are not **Working Days** include, but are not limited to, the following — a Saturday, a Sunday, Waitangi Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, ANZAC Day, the Sovereign's birthday, Matariki Observance Day, and Labour Day.

Purposes

The **Society** is established and maintained exclusively for charitable purposes (including any purposes ancillary to those charitable purposes), namely:

1. To benefit the community by promoting and advocating for Masters Rowers,
2. To initiate or assist in the planning and organisation of competitive/recreational rowing,
3. To do all things that may be done to support the above objectives.

Any income, benefit, or advantage must be used to advance the charitable purposes of the **Society**.

Culture

The Culture of the **Society** is as follows—

- We are collaborative
- We are supportive
- We promote skills and learning
- We support health and wellbeing of older rowers
- We support all things rowing as appropriate.

This Constitution shall be interpreted having regard to that Culture.

Act and Regulations

Nothing in this Constitution authorises the **Society** to do anything which contravenes or is inconsistent with the **Act**, any regulations made under the **Act**, or any other legislation.

Restrictions on Society powers

The **Society** does not have the power to borrow money.

Personal Benefits

The **Society** must not be used for the financial gain of any of its members nor associates of any of its members.

Registered Office

The registered office of the **Society** shall be at such place in New Zealand as the **Committee** from time to time determines.

Changes to the registered office shall be notified to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies

- at least 5 **Working Days** before the change of address for the registered office is due to take effect, and
- in a form and as required by the **Act**.

Contact Person

The **Society** shall have at least 2 but no more than 3 contact persons whom the Registrar can contact when needed.

The **Society's** contact person must be:

- At least 18 years of age, and
- Ordinarily resident in New Zealand.
- The contact persons shall be the **Secretary, Treasurer and President** .

- Each contact person's name must be provided to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies, along with their contact details, including:
 - a physical address or an electronic address, and
 - a telephone number.
- Any change in that contact person or that person's name or contact details shall be advised to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies within 20 **Working Days** of that change occurring, or the **Society** becoming aware of the change.

MEMBERS

Minimum Number Of Members

The Society shall maintain the minimum number of Members required by the **Act**.

Types Of Members

The classes of membership and the method by which **Members** are admitted to different classes of membership are as follows:

- **Member**
A **Member** is an individual admitted to membership under this Constitution who has not ceased to be a **Member**.
- **Life Member**
A Life Member is a person honoured for highly valued services to the **Society** elected as a Life Member by resolution of a **General Meeting** passed by a two-thirds majority of those **Members** present and voting. A Life Member shall have all the rights and privileges of a **Member** and shall be subject to all the same duties as a **Member** excepting those of paying subscriptions and levies.

Membership Year

- Each membership year will begin on the 1st day of the **Society's Financial Year**

Becoming A Member: Process

New members shall complete an online form which

- supplies their full name, email address & phone number as required by the **Act**
- supplies any further details required by the **Committee**

Submission of membership application form will require the applicant to complete a section of the form indicating their consent to become a member.

Following submission of the online form, the application process will be complete upon payment of the membership fee.

The **Committee** may decline an application for membership at its sole discretion.

The written consent of every person or to become a Society Member shall be recorded in the Society's membership records.

Where a member wishes to continue their membership for the following membership year, they will complete an online form confirming their current contact details (email address and phone number) and pay a subscription fee.

Members' Obligations And Rights

Every Member shall promptly advise the Society in writing of any changes to their contact details.

A Member is only entitled to exercise the rights of membership (including attending and voting at General Meetings, and participating in Society activities) if all subscriptions and any other fees have been paid to the Society

No Member or Life Member is liable for any obligation of the Society by reason only of being a Member.

Subscriptions And Fees

The annual subscription and any other fees for membership, for the membership year beginning on the 1st day the following Financial Year, shall be set by resolution of the **Annual General Meeting**.

Any subscription paid shall be for the whole membership year or any part of it.

Ceasing To Be A Member

A Member ceases to be a Member—

- by resignation from that Member's class of membership by written **Notice** to the **Committee** or
- after the last day of the membership year or
- on death, or
- by resolution of the **Committee** when a Member's membership has been terminated and the **Committee** has promptly notified the former Member in writing.

Becoming A Member Again Following Termination Of Membership

Where a membership was terminated following a disciplinary or dispute resolution process, the applicant may be re-admitted only by a resolution passed at a **Committee** Meeting.

GENERAL MEETINGS

Procedures For All General Meetings

The **Committee** shall give all Members at least 10 **Working Days**' written **Notice** of any General Meeting and of the business to be conducted at that General Meeting.

That **Notice** will be addressed to the Member at the contact address notified to the **Society** and recorded in the **Society's Register of Members**. The General Meeting and its business will not be invalidated simply because one or more Members do not receive the **Notice** of the General Meeting.

Only financial Members may vote at General Meetings—

- in person, or
- remotely where audio/visual participation has been approved by the **Committee**.
- no proxy voting shall be permitted.

No **General Meeting** may be held unless at least 10 eligible financial Members attend throughout the meeting and this will constitute a quorum.

If, within half an hour after the time appointed for a meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting – if convened upon request of Members – shall be dissolved. In any other case it shall stand adjourned to a day, time and place determined by the **President** of the **Society**, and if at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present those Members present in person shall be deemed to constitute a sufficient quorum.

A Member is entitled to exercise one vote on any motion at a General Meeting in person and voting at a General Meeting shall be by voices or by show of hands or, on demand of the **President** or of 2 or more Members present, by secret ballot.

Unless otherwise required by this Constitution, all questions shall be decided by a simple majority of those in attendance in person and voting at a General Meeting.

Any decisions made when a quorum is not present are not valid.

Written resolutions may not be passed in lieu of a General Meeting.

General Meetings shall be held at a venue by Members present in person unless the use of real-time audio, audio and visual, or electronic communication that gives each Member a reasonable opportunity to participate, is permitted by the **Committee**.

Any person chairing a **General Meeting** has a deliberative and, in the event of a tied vote, a casting vote.

Any person chairing a General Meeting may —

- With the consent of a simple majority of Members present at any General Meeting adjourn the General Meeting from time to time and from place to place but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned General Meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.
- Direct that any person not entitled to be present at the General Meeting, or obstructing the business of the General Meeting, or behaving in a disorderly manner, or being abusive, or failing to abide by the directions of the **President** be removed from the General Meeting, and
- In the absence of a quorum or in the case of emergency, adjourn the General Meeting or declare it closed.

The **Committee** may propose motions for the **Society** to vote on ('**Committee Motions**'), which shall be notified to Members with the **Notice** of the General Meeting.

Any Member may request that a motion be voted on ('Member's Motion') at a General Meeting, by giving **Notice** to the **Secretary** or **Committee** at least 21 **Working Days** before that meeting. The Member may also provide information in support of the motion ('Member's Information'). If **Notice** of the motion is given to the **Secretary** or **Committee** before written **Notice** of the General Meeting is given to Members, **Notice** of the motion shall be provided to Members with the written **Notice** of the General Meeting.

Minutes

The **Society** must keep minutes of all General Meetings.

Annual General Meetings: When They Will Be Held

An **Annual General Meeting** shall be held once a year on a date and at a location and/or using any electronic communication determined by the **Committee** and consistent with any requirements in the **Act**, and the Constitution relating to the procedure to be followed at General Meetings shall apply.

The **Annual General Meeting** must be held no later than the earlier of the following—

- 6 months after the balance date of the **Society**
- 15 months after the previous annual meeting.

Annual General Meetings: Business

- The business of an **Annual General Meeting** shall be to—
- confirm the minutes of the last **Annual General Meeting** and any Special General Meeting(s) held since the last **Annual General Meeting**,
- adopt the annual report on the operations and affairs of the **Society**,
- adopt the **Committee's** report on the finances of the **Society**, and the annual financial statements,
- set any subscriptions for the next financial year,
- consider any motions of which prior **Notice** has been given to Members with **Notice** of the Meeting, and
- consider any general business
- election of **Officers**

The **Committee** must, at each **Annual General Meeting**, present the following information—

- an annual report on the operation and affairs of the **Society** during the most recently completed accounting period,
- the annual financial statements for that period, and
- **Notice** of any disclosures of conflicts of interest made by **Officers** during that period (including a summary of the **Matters**, or types of **Matters**, to which those disclosures relate).

Special General Meetings:Business

Special General Meetings may be called at any time by the **Committee** by resolution.

The **Committee** must call a **Special General Meeting** if it receives a written request signed by at least 10 percent of Members.

Any resolution or written request must state the business that the **Special General Meeting** is to deal with.

The rules in this Constitution relating to the procedure to be followed at General Meetings shall apply to a Special General Meeting, and a **Special General Meeting** shall only consider and deal with the business specified in the **Committee**'s resolution or the written request by Members for the Meeting.

COMMITTEE

The Committee will consist of at least three, but no more than ten, Officers.

A majority of the Officers on the Committee must be either:

- Members of the **Society**, or
- representatives of bodies corporate that are Members of the **Society**.

Structure Of The Committee

- The **Committee** of the **Society** shall comprise a **President, Immediate Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, Marketing/Communications Officer** and up to five further **Officers** who represent the Legion's sub-committees;
- They shall be elected at an **Annual General Meeting**.
- The **President** shall be elected for a two-year term
- The **President** shall not serve in that role for more than two consecutive terms
- A former **President** may stand for re-election after being out of office for two years or more.
- The office of **Immediate Past President** shall be filled by the retiring **President**.
- All other **Officers** may offer themselves for re-election at any **Annual General Meeting**.

Sub-committees

- comprise 3 to 5 members including a current **Officer**
- other sub-committee members can be either from the executive or seconded from the Legion membership.
- No one member can be on more than two sub-committees.
- The meeting shall also appoint an Honorary Solicitor

Functions Of The Committee

From the end of each **Annual General Meeting** until the end of the next, the **Society** shall be managed by, or under the direction or supervision of, the **Committee**, in accordance with the Incorporated Societies Act 2022, any Regulations made under that **Act**, and this Constitution.

Powers Of The Committee

The **Committee** has all the powers necessary for managing — and for directing and supervising the management of — the operation and affairs of the **Society**, subject to such modifications, exceptions, or limitations as are contained in the **Act** or in this Constitution.

Sub-committees

Where the **Committee** appoint sub-committees consisting of such persons (whether or not Members of the **Society**) and for such purposes as it thinks fit —

- the quorum of every sub-committee is half the members of the sub-committee but not less than 2,
- a sub-committee shall not co-opt additional members without **Committee** approval
- a sub-committee must not commit the **Society** to any financial expenditure without express authority from the **Committee**, and
- a sub-committee must not further delegate any of its powers.

General Matters: Committees

The **Committee** and any sub-committee may act by resolution approved during a conference call using audio and/or audio-visual technology or through a written ballot conducted by email, electronic voting system, or post, and any such resolution shall be recorded in the minutes of the next **Committee** or sub-committee meeting.

Other than as prescribed by the **Act** or this Constitution, the **Committee** or any sub-committee may regulate its proceedings as it thinks fit.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Procedure

The quorum for **Committee** meetings is at least half the number of members of the **Committee**.

A meeting of the **Committee** may be held either—

- by a number of the members of the **Committee** who constitute a quorum, being assembled together at the place, date and time appointed for the meeting; or
- by means of audio, or audio and visual, communication by which all members of the **Committee** participating and constituting a quorum can simultaneously hear each other throughout the meeting.

A resolution of the **Committee** is passed at any meeting of the **Committee** if a majority of the votes cast on it are in favour of the resolution. Every **Officer** on the **Committee** shall have one vote.

The **President** shall be the chairperson of any **Committee** Meeting. If the **President** is not present, the **Immediate Past President** shall chair the meeting. If neither **President** nor **Immediate Past President** is present then members of the **Committee** present may choose one of their number to be chairperson of the meeting. The chairperson does not have a casting vote in the event of a tied vote on any resolution of the **Committee**.

Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution the **Committee** may regulate its own procedure.

Frequency

The **Committee** shall meet at least four times annually at such times and places and in such manner (including by audio, audio and visual, or electronic communication) as it may determine and otherwise where and as convened by the **President** or **Secretary**.

The **Secretary**, or other **Committee** member nominated by the **Committee**, shall give to all **Committee** members not less than 5 **Working Days' Notice** of **Committee** meetings, but in cases of urgency a shorter period of **Notice** shall suffice.

OFFICERS

Qualifications Of Officers

Every **Officer** must be a natural person who —

- has consented in writing to be an officer of the **Society**, and
- certifies that they are not disqualified from being elected or appointed or otherwise holding office as an **Officer** of the **Society**.

Officers must not be disqualified under section 47(3) of the **Act** or section 36B of the Charities Act 2005, from being appointed or holding office, as an **Officer** of the **Society**, by being any of the following —

1. a person who is under 16 years of age
2. a person who is an undischarged bankrupt
3. a person who is prohibited from being a director or promoter of, or being concerned or taking part in the management of, an incorporated or unincorporated body under the Companies Act 1993, the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013, or the Takeovers Act 1993, or any other similar legislation
4. A person who is disqualified from being a member of the governing body of a charitable entity under the Charities Act 2005
5. a person who has been convicted of any of the following, and has been sentenced for the offence, within the last 7 years —
 1. an offence under subpart 6 of Part 4 of the **Act**
 2. a crime involving dishonesty (within the meaning of section 2(1) of the Crimes Act 1961)
 3. an offence under section 143B of the Tax Administration Act 1994
 4. an offence, in a country other than New Zealand, that is substantially similar to an offence specified in subparagraphs (1) to (3)
 5. a money laundering offence or an offence relating to the financing of terrorism, whether in New Zealand or elsewhere
6. a person subject to:
 1. a banning order under subpart 7 of Part 4 of the **Act**, or
 2. an order under section 108 of the Credit Contracts and Consumer Finance Act 2003, or
 3. a forfeiture order under the Criminal Proceeds (Recovery) Act 2009, or
 4. a property order made under the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988, or whose property is managed by a trustee corporation under section 32 of that Act.
7. a person who is subject to an order that is substantially similar to an order referred to in paragraph (f) under a law of a country, State, or territory outside New Zealand that is a country, State, or territory prescribed by the regulations (if any) of the **Act**.

Prior to election or appointment as an **Officer** a person must —

- consent in writing to be an **Officer**, and
- certify in writing that they are not disqualified from being elected or appointed as an **Officer** either by this **Constitution** or the **Act**.

Note that only a natural person may be an **Officer** and each certificate shall be retained in the **Society's** records.

Officers' Duties

At all times each **Officer**:

1. shall act in good faith and in what he or she believes to be the best interests of the **Society**,
2. must exercise all powers for a proper purpose,
3. must not act, or agree to the **Society** acting, in a manner that contravenes the **Act** or this **Constitution**,

4. when exercising powers or performing duties as an **Officer**, must exercise the care and diligence that a reasonable person with the same responsibilities would exercise in the same circumstances taking into account, but without limitation:
 - the nature of the **Society**,
 - the nature of the decision, and
 - the position of the **Officer** and the nature of the responsibilities undertaken by him or her
5. must not agree to the activities of the **Society** being carried on in a manner likely to create a substantial risk of serious loss to the **Society** or to the **Society's** creditors, or cause or allow the activities of the **Society** to be carried on in a manner likely to create a substantial risk of serious loss to the **Society** or to the **Society's** creditors, and
6. must not agree to the **Society** incurring an obligation unless he or she believes at that time on reasonable grounds that the **Society** will be able to perform the obligation when it is required to do so.

Election Or Appointment Of Officers

The election of **Officers** shall be conducted as follows.

Officers shall be elected during **Annual General Meetings**. However, if a vacancy in the position of any **Officer** occurs between **Annual General Meetings**, that vacancy shall be filled by resolution of the **Committee** (and any such appointee must, before appointment, supply a signed consent to appointment and a certificate that the nominee is not disqualified from being appointed or holding office as a **Officer** (as described in the 'Qualification of **Officers**' rule above). Any such appointment must be ratified at the next **Annual General Meeting**.

A candidate's written nomination, accompanied by the written consent of the nominee with a certificate that the nominee is not disqualified from being appointed or holding office as a **Officer** (as described in the 'Qualification of **Officers**' rule above) shall be received by the **Society** at least 5 **Working Days** before the date of the **Annual General Meeting**. If there are insufficient valid nominations received, further nominations may be received from the floor at the **Annual General Meeting**.

Votes shall be cast in such a manner as the person chairing the meeting determines. In the event of any vote being tied, the tie shall be resolved by the incoming **Committee** (excluding those in respect of whom the votes are tied).

Two **Members** (who are not nominees) or non-**Members** appointed by the Chairperson shall act as scrutineers for the counting of the votes and destruction of any voting papers.

The failure for any reason of any financial **Member** to receive such **Notice** of the general meeting shall not invalidate the election.

In addition to **Officers** elected under the foregoing provisions of this rule, the **Committee** may appoint other **Officers** for a specific purpose, or for a limited period, or generally until the next **Annual General Meeting**. Unless otherwise specified by the **Committee** any person so appointed shall have full speaking and voting rights as an **Officer** of the **Society**. Any such appointee must, before appointment, supply a signed consent to appointment and a certificate that the nominee is not disqualified from being appointed or holding office as an **Officer** (as described in the 'Qualification of **Officers**' rule above).

Term

The Term of Office

- for the **President** shall be two years
- for the Immediate Past **President** shall be the same as the **President**
- for all other **Officers** shall be one year.

No **President** shall serve for more than 2 consecutive terms

All other **Officers** may offer themselves for re-election at the end of their term

Removal Of Officers

An **Officer** shall be removed as an **Officer** by resolution of the **Committee** or the **Society** where in the opinion of the **Committee** or the **Society** —

- The **Officer** elected to the **Committee** has been absent from 3 **Committee** meetings without leave of absence from the **Committee**.
- The **Officer** has brought the **Society** into disrepute.
- The **Officer** has failed to disclose a conflict of interest.
- The **Committee** passes a vote of no confidence in the **Officer**.

with effect from (as applicable) the date specified in a resolution of the **Committee** or **Society**.

Ceasing To Hold Office

An **Officer** ceases to hold office when they resign (by **Notice** in writing to the **Committee**), are removed, die, or otherwise vacate office in accordance with section 50(1) of the **Act**.

Each **Officer** shall within 21 **Working Days** of submitting a resignation or ceasing to hold office, deliver to the **Committee** all books, papers and other property of the **Society** held by such former **Officer**.

Conflicts Of Interest

An **Officer** or member of a sub-committee who is an **Interested Member** in respect of any **Matter** being considered by the **Society**, must disclose details of the nature and extent of the interest (including any monetary value of the interest if it can be quantified)—

1. to the **Committee** and or sub-committee, and
2. in an **Interests Register** kept by the **Committee**.

Disclosure must be made as soon as practicable after the **Officer** or member of a sub-committee becomes aware that they are interested in the **Matter**.

An **Officer** or member of a sub-committee who is an **Interested Member** regarding a **Matter**—

1. must not vote or take part in the decision of the **Committee** and/or sub-committee relating to the **Matter** unless all members of the **Committee** who are not interested in the **Matter** consent; and
2. must not sign any document relating to the entry into a transaction or the initiation of the **Matter** unless all members of the **Committee** who are not interested in the **Matter** consent; but
3. may take part in any discussion of the **Committee** and/or sub-committee relating to the **Matter** and be present at the time of the decision of the **Committee** and/or sub-committee (unless the **Committee** and/or sub-committee decides otherwise).

However, an **Officer** or member of a sub-committee who is prevented from voting on a **Matter** may still be counted for the purpose of determining whether there is a quorum at any meeting at which the **Matter** is considered.

Where 50 per cent or more of **Officers** are prevented from voting on a **Matter** because they are interested in that **Matter**, a **Special General Meeting** must be called to consider and determine the **Matter**, unless all non-interested **Officers** agree otherwise.

Where 50 per cent or more of the members of a sub-committee are prevented from voting on a **Matter** because they are interested in that **Matter**, the **Committee** shall consider and determine the **Matter**.

RECORDS

Register Of Members

The **Society** shall keep an up-to-date **Register of Members**.

For each current Member, the information contained in the **Register of Members** shall include —

- Their name, and
- The date on which they became a Member (if there is no record of the date they joined, this date will be recorded as 'Unknown'), and
- Their contact details, including —
 - An electronic address (email), and
 - A telephone number.

Every current Member shall promptly advise the **Society** of any change of the Member's contact details.

The **Society** shall also keep a record of the former Members of the **Society**. For each Member who ceased to be a Member within the previous 7 years, the **Society** will record:

- The former Member's name, and
- The date the former Member ceased to be a Member.

Interests Register

The **Committee** shall at all times maintain an up-to-date register of the interests disclosed by **Officers** and by members of any sub-committee.

Access To Information For Members

A **Member** may at any time make a written request to the **Society** for information held by the **Society**.

The request must specify the information sought in sufficient detail to enable the information to be identified.

The **Society** must, within a reasonable time after receiving a request —

1. provide the information, or
2. agree to provide the information within a specified period, or
3. agree to provide the information within a specified period if the **Member** pays a reasonable charge to the **Society** (which must be specified and explained) to meet the cost of providing the information, or
4. refuse to provide the information, specifying the reasons for the refusal.

Without limiting the reasons for which the **Society** may refuse to provide the information, the **Society** may refuse to provide the information if —

1. withholding the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons, or
2. the disclosure of the information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial position of the **Society** or of any of its **Members**, or
3. the disclosure of the information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the financial or commercial position of any other person, whether or not that person supplied the information to the **Society**, or
4. the information is not relevant to the operation or affairs of the society, or
5. withholding the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege, or
6. the disclosure of the information would, or would be likely to, breach an enactment, or
7. the burden to the **Society** in responding to the request is substantially disproportionate to any benefit that the **Member** (or any other person) will or may receive from the disclosure of the information, or
8. the request for the information is frivolous or vexatious, or
9. the request seeks information about a dispute or complaint which is or has been the subject of the procedures for resolving such matters under this **Constitution** and the **Act**.

If the **Society** requires the **Member** to pay a charge for the information, the **Member** may withdraw the request, and must be treated as having done so unless, within 10 **Working Days** after receiving notification of the charge, the **Member** informs the **Society** —

1. that the **Member** will pay the charge; or
2. that the **Member** considers the charge to be unreasonable.

Nothing in this rule limits Information Privacy Principle 6 of the Privacy Act 2020 relating to access to personal information.

FINANCES

Control And Management

The funds and property of the **Society** shall be—

- controlled, invested and disposed of by the **Committee**, subject to this **Constitution**, and
- devoted solely to the promotion of the purposes of the **Society**.

The **Committee** shall maintain bank accounts in the name of the **Society**.

All money received on account of the **Society** shall be banked within 5 **Working Days** of receipt.

All accounts paid or for payment shall be submitted to the **Committee** for approval of payment.

The **Committee** must ensure that there are kept at all times accounting records that—

1. correctly record the transactions of the **Society**, and
2. allow the **Society** to produce financial statements that comply with the requirements of the **Act**, and
3. would enable the financial statements to be readily and properly audited (if required under any legislation or the **Society's Constitution**).

The **Committee** must establish and maintain a satisfactory system of control of the **Society's** accounting records.

The accounting records must be kept in written form or in a form or manner that is easily accessible and convertible into written form. And the accounting records must be kept for the current accounting period and for the last 7 completed accounting periods of the **Society**.

Balance Date

The **Society's** financial year shall commence on 1st of April each year and end on 31st of March the following year (the latter date being the **Society's** balance date).

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Meanings Of Dispute And Complaint

A dispute is a disagreement or conflict involving the **Society** and/or its **Members** in relation to specific allegations set out below.

The disagreement or conflict may be between any of the following persons—

1. 2 or more **Members**
2. 1 or more **Members** and the **Society**
3. 1 or more **Members** and 1 or more **Officers**
4. 2 or more **Officers**
5. 1 or more **Officers** and the **Society**
6. 1 or more **Members** or **Officers** and the **Society**.

The disagreement or conflict relates to any of the following allegations—

1. a **Member** or an **Officer** has engaged in misconduct

2. a **Member** or an **Officer** has breached, or is likely to breach, a duty under the **Society's Constitution** or bylaws or the **Act**
3. the **Society** has breached, or is likely to breach, a duty under the **Society's Constitution** or bylaws or the **Act**
4. a **Member's** rights or interests as a **Member** have been damaged or **Member's** rights or interests generally have been damaged.

A **Member** or an **Officer** may make a complaint by giving to the **Committee** (or a complaints subcommittee) a notice in writing that—

1. states that the **Member** or **Officer** is starting a procedure for resolving a dispute in accordance with the **Society's Constitution**; and
2. sets out the allegation(s) to which the dispute relates and whom the allegation or allegations is or are against; and
3. sets out any other information or allegations reasonably required by the **Society**.

The **Society** may make a complaint involving an allegation against a **Member** or an **Officer** by giving to the **Member** or **Officer** a notice in writing that—

1. states that the **Society** is starting a procedure for resolving a dispute in accordance with the **Society's Constitution**; and
2. sets out the allegation to which the dispute relates.

The information setting out the allegations must be sufficiently detailed to ensure that a person against whom an allegation or allegations is made is fairly advised of the allegation or allegations concerning them, with sufficient details given to enable that person to prepare a response.

A complaint may be made in any other reasonable manner permitted by the **Society's Constitution**.

All **Members** (including the **Committee**) are obliged to cooperate to resolve disputes efficiently, fairly, and with minimum disruption to the **Society's** activities.

The complainant raising a dispute, and the **Committee**, must consider and discuss whether a dispute may best be resolved through informal discussions, mediation, arbitration, or a tikanga-based practice. Where mediation or arbitration is agreed on, the parties will sign a suitable mediation or arbitration agreement.

How Complaint Is Made

1. A **Member** or an **Officer** may make a complaint by giving to the **Committee** (or a complaints subcommittee) a notice in writing that—
 1. states that the **Member** or **Officer** is starting a procedure for resolving a dispute in accordance with the **Society's Constitution**; and
 2. sets out the allegation or allegations to which the dispute relates and whom the allegation is against; and
 3. sets out any other information reasonably required by the **Society**.
2. The **Society** may make a complaint involving an allegation or allegations against a **Member** or an **Officer** by giving to the **Member** or **Officer** a notice in writing that—
 1. states that the **Society** is starting a procedure for resolving a dispute in accordance with the **Society's Constitution**; and
 2. sets out the allegation to which the dispute relates.
3. The information given under subclause (1b.) or (2b.) must be sufficient to ensure that a person against whom an allegation is made is fairly advised of the allegation or allegations concerning them, with sufficient details given to enable that person to prepare a response.
4. A complaint may be made in any other reasonable manner permitted by the **Society's Constitution**.

Person Who Makes Complaint Has Right To Be Heard

1. A **Member** or an **Officer** who makes a complaint has a right to be heard before the complaint is resolved or any outcome is determined.
2. If the **Society** makes a complaint—
 1. the **Society** has a right to be heard before the complaint is resolved or any outcome is determined; and
 2. an **Officer** may exercise that right on behalf of the **Society**.
3. Without limiting the manner in which the **Member**, **Officer**, or **Society** may be given the right to be heard, they must be taken to have been given the right if—
 1. they have a reasonable opportunity to be heard in writing or at an oral hearing (if one is held); and
 2. an oral hearing is held if the decision maker considers that an oral hearing is needed to ensure an adequate hearing; and
 3. an oral hearing (if any) is held before the decision maker; and
 4. the **Member's**, **Officer's**, or **Society's** written or verbal statement or submissions (if any) are considered by the decision maker.

Person Who Is Subject Of Complaint Has Right To Be Heard

1. This clause applies if a complaint involves an allegation that a **Member**, an **Officer**, or the **Society** (the 'respondent')—
 1. has engaged in misconduct; or
 2. has breached, or is likely to breach, a duty under the **Society's Constitution** or bylaws or this **Act**; or
 3. has damaged the rights or interests of a **Member** or the rights or interests of **Members** generally.
2. The respondent has a right to be heard before the complaint is resolved or any outcome is determined.
3. If the respondent is the **Society**, an **Officer** may exercise the right on behalf of the **Society**.
4. Without limiting the manner in which a respondent may be given a right to be heard, a respondent must be taken to have been given the right if—
 1. the respondent is fairly advised of all allegations concerning the respondent, with sufficient details and time given to enable the respondent to prepare a response; and
 2. the respondent has a reasonable opportunity to be heard in writing or at an oral hearing (if one is held); and
 3. an oral hearing is held if the decision maker considers that an oral hearing is needed to ensure an adequate hearing; and
 4. an oral hearing (if any) is held before the decision maker; and
 5. the respondent's written statement or submissions (if any) are considered by the decision maker.

Investigating And Determining Dispute

1. The **Society** must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving or becoming aware of a complaint made in accordance with its **Constitution**, ensure that the dispute is investigated and determined.
2. Disputes must be dealt with under the **Constitution** in a fair, efficient, and effective manner and in accordance with the provisions of the **Act**.

Society May Decide Not To Proceed Further With Complaint

Despite the 'Investigating and determining dispute' rule above, the **Society** may decide not to proceed further with a complaint if—

1. the complaint is considered to be trivial; or
2. the complaint does not appear to disclose or involve any allegation of the following kind:
 1. that a **Member** or an **Officer** has engaged in material misconduct;
 2. that a **Member**, an **Officer**, or the **Society** has materially breached, or is likely to materially breach, a duty under the **Society's Constitution** or bylaws or the **Act**;
 3. that a **Member's** rights or interests or **Members'** rights or interests generally have been materially damaged:

3. the complaint appears to be without foundation or there is no apparent evidence to support it; or
4. the person who makes the complaint has an insignificant interest in the matter; or
5. the conduct, incident, event, or issue giving rise to the complaint has already been investigated and dealt with under the **Constitution**; or
6. there has been an undue delay in making the complaint.

Society May Refer Complaint

1. The **Society** may refer a complaint to—
 1. a subcommittee or an external person to investigate and report; or
 2. a subcommittee, an arbitral tribunal, or an external person to investigate and make a decision.
2. The **Society** may, with the consent of all parties to a complaint, refer the complaint to any type of consensual dispute resolution (for example, mediation, facilitation, or a tikanga-based practice).

Decision Makers

A person may not act as a decision maker in relation to a complaint if 2 or more members of the **Committee** or a complaints subcommittee consider that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the person may not be—

1. impartial; or
2. able to consider the matter without a predetermined view.

LIQUIDATION & REMOVAL FROM THE REGISTER

Resolving To Put Society Into Liquidation

The **Society** may be liquidated in accordance with the provisions of Part 5 of the **Act**.

The **Committee** shall give 20 **Working Days** written **Notice** to all **Members** of the proposed resolution to put the **Society** into liquidation.

The **Committee** shall also give written **Notice** to all **Members** of the **General Meeting** at which any such proposed resolution is to be considered. The **Notice** shall include all information as required by section 228(4) of the **Act**.

Any resolution to put the **Society** into liquidation must be passed by a simple majority of all **Members** present and voting.

Resolving To Apply For Removal From The Register

The **Society** may be removed from the Register of Incorporated Societies in accordance with the provisions of Part 5 of the **Act**.

The **Committee** shall give 20 **Working Days** written **Notice** to all **Members** of the proposed resolution to remove the **Society** from the Register of Incorporated Societies.

The **Committee** shall also give written **Notice** to all **Members** of the **General Meeting** at which any such proposed resolution is to be considered. The **Notice** shall include all information as required by section 228(4) of the **Act**.

Any resolution to remove the **Society** from the Register of Incorporated Societies must be passed by a simple majority of all **Members** present and voting.

Surplus Assets

If the **Society** is liquidated, or removed from the Register of Incorporated Societies, no distribution shall be made to any **Member**, and if any property remains after the settlement of the **Society's** debts and liabilities, that property must be given or transferred to another organisation for a similar charitable purpose or purposes as defined in section 5(1) of the Charities Act 2005.

ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Amending This Constitution

- All amendments must be made in accordance with this Constitution. Any minor or technical amendments shall be notified to Members as outlined in section 31 of the **Act**.
- The **Society** shall only amend or replace this Constitution at a General Meeting, by a resolution passed by a simple majority of those Members present and voting.
- The **Committee** may propose any change to this Constitution, which must be approved by Members at a General Meeting.
- Any other proposed resolution to amend or replace this Constitution
 - shall be signed by at least 10 per cent of eligible Members
 - given in writing to the **Committee** at least 20 **Working Days** before the General Meeting at which the resolution is to be considered
 - accompanied by a written explanation of the reasons for the proposal.
- At least 15 **Working Days** before the General Meeting at which any amendment is to be considered the **Committee** shall give to all Members **Notice** of the proposed resolution, the reasons for the proposal, and any recommendations the **Committee** has.
- When an amendment is approved by a General Meeting it shall be notified to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies in the form and manner specified in the **Act** for registration, and shall take effect from the date of registration.
- If the **Society** is registered as a charity under the Charities Act 2005 the amendment shall also be notified to Charities Services as required by section 40 of that Act.

No addition to or alteration of the Purposes Clause, Personal Benefits Clause or the Surplus Assets clause shall be made which affect the tax-exempt status. The provisions and effects of this clause shall not be removed from this document and shall be included and implied into any document replacing this document.

Other

Bylaws

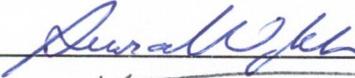
The **Committee** from time to time may make and amend bylaws, and policies for the conduct and control of **Society** activities and codes of conduct applicable to Members, but no such bylaws, policies or codes of conduct applicable to Members shall be inconsistent with this Constitution, the **Act**, regulations made under the **Act**, or any other legislation.

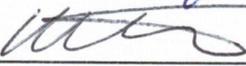
Signatures

Following the adoption of the **Society's** new or changed Constitution, it shall be dated and carry the signatures of the President, Secretary and Treasurer.

This Constitution was approved by the majority of Members present at a Special/Annual General Meeting held on

21st May 2025 at Takapuna, Auckland

Sue Wright  (President)

Margaret Timms  (Secretary)

Roger Watts  (Treasurer)