

Constitution for the Rangiora Photographic Society Incorporated 2025

Contents

1. Introduction and Rules	4
a. Name	4
b. Charitable status.....	4
c. Definitions.....	4
d. Purposes.....	5
e. Primary Purposes of the Society	7
f. Act and Regulations.....	7
g. Restrictions on society powers.....	7
h. Registered office.....	7
i. Contact person	8
2. Members	9
a. Minimum number of members	9
b. Types of members	9
c. Becoming a member: consent.....	9
d. Application for Membership	9
e. Members' obligations and rights	10
f. Subscriptions and fees	10
g. Ceasing to be a member	11
h. Obligations once membership has ceased	11
i. Becoming a member again.....	12
3. General Meetings	12
a. Procedures for all General Meetings	12
b. Minutes.....	13
c. Annual General Meetings: when they will be held	14
d. Annual General Meetings: business.....	14
e. Special General Meetings	14
4. Committee	15
a. Committee composition	15
b. Functions of the committee	15
c. Committee membership eligibility.....	15
d. Powers of the committee	15
e. Sub-committees.....	16

f.	General matters: committees	16
5.	Committee meetings.....	16
a.	Procedure	16
b.	Frequency	17
6.	Officers	17
a.	Qualifications of officers.....	17
b.	Officers' duties	18
7.	Role of the Committee	19
a.	Roles of the Committee Members	20
b.	Election or appointment of officers.....	21
c.	Term	22
8.	Removal of officers	22
a.	Removal of Officers	22
b.	Ceasing to hold office	23
c.	Conflicts of interest	23
9.	Records	24
a.	Register of Members	24
b.	Interests Register.....	25
c.	Access to information for members.....	25
d.	Ownership / Copyright	26
10.	Finances	26
a.	Control and management	26
b.	Balance date	27
11.	Dispute resolution	27
a.	Meanings of dispute and complaint.....	27
b.	How a complaint is made.....	28
c.	Person who makes complaint has right to be heard.....	29
d.	Person who is subject of the complaint has right to be heard.....	30
e.	Investigating and determining dispute	31
f.	Society may decide not to proceed further with complaint.	31
g.	Society may refer the complaint	31
h.	Decision makers.....	32
12.	Liquidation and removal from the register.....	32

a.	Resolving to put society into liquidation.....	32
b.	Resolving to apply for removal from the register	32
c.	Surplus assets.....	33
13.	Alterations to the constitution	33
a.	Amending this constitution	33
14.	Other	34
a.	Bylaws	34
15.	Ratified	34

1. Introduction and Rules

a. Name

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

b. Charitable status

The **Society** is not and does not intend to be registered as a charitable entity under the Charities Act 2005.

c. 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.

'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** and who has not ceased to be a **Member** of the **Society**.

'Notice' to **Members** includes any notice given by email, post, or courier.

'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.

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

'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.

'Vice President' means the **Officer** elected or appointed to serve as president in that officer's absence.

'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, Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki/Matariki Observance Day, and Labour Day.

d. Purposes

The **Society** must not operate for the purpose of, or with the effect of -

- distributing, any gain, profit, surplus, dividend, or other similar financial benefit to any of its **Members** (whether in money or in kind); or
- having capital that is divided into shares or stock held by its **Members**; or
- holding, property in which its members have a disposable interest (whether directly, or in the form of shares or stock in the capital of the society or otherwise).

But the **Society** will not operate for the financial gain of **Members** simply if the **Society** –

- engages in trade,
- pays a **Member** for matters that are incidental to the purposes of the **Society**, and the **Member** is a not-for-profit entity,
- distributes funds to a **Member** to further the purposes of the **Society**, and the **Member** –
 - is a not-for-profit entity, and
 - is affiliated or closely related to the **Society**, and has the same, or substantially the same, purposes as those of the Society.
- reimburses a **Member** for reasonable expenses legitimately incurred on behalf of the **Society** or while pursuing the **Society**'s purposes,
- provides benefits to members of the public or of a class of the public and those persons include **Members** or their families,
- provides benefits to **Members** or their families to alleviate hardship,
- provides educational scholarships or grants to **Members** or their families,
- pays a **Member** a salary or wages or other payments for services to the **Society** on arm's length terms (terms reasonable in the circumstances if the parties were connected or related only by the transaction in question, each acting independently, and each acting in its own best interests; or are terms less favourable to the **Member** than those terms and the payment for services, or other transaction, does not include any share of a gain, profit, or surplus, percentage of revenue, or other reward in connection with any gain, profit, surplus, or revenue of the **Society**),
- provides a **Member** with incidental benefits (for example, trophies, prizes, or discounts on products or services) in accordance with the purposes of the **Society**.
- on removal of the **Society** from the Register of Incorporated Societies having its surplus assets distributed under subpart 5 of Part 5 of the **Act** to a **Member** that is a not-for-profit entity.

e. Primary Purposes of the Society

- Promote education in and advancement of the art and science of photography in all its applications.
- Support members.
- Promote and facilitate friendship, co-operation and the exchange of information and ideas on photography.
- Promote the highest standards of achievement in photography in order to encourage public appreciation of photography.
- Hold activities to educate and provide opportunities for participants to grow their knowledge and practical applications in photography, including the art and science of photography.
- Hold and promote exhibitions and salons of members' photographic works.
- Affiliate and co-operate with kindred and other organisation's including international photographic societies.
- Make Bylaws necessary for the regulation and good conduct of the Society.

f. 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.

g. Restrictions on society powers

The **Society** must not be carried on for the financial gain of any of its members.

The **Society's** capacity, rights, powers, and privileges are subject to the following restrictions (if any) -

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

h. 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**.

i. Contact person

The **Society** shall have at least 1 but no more than 3 contact person(s) 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.

A contact person can be appointed by the **Committee** or elected by the **Members** at an **Annual General Meeting**.

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.

President	president@rps.nz
Treasurer	treasurer@rps.nz
Secretary	secretary@rps.nz

2. Members

a. Minimum number of members

The **Society** shall maintain the minimum number of **Members** required by the **Act**. The minimum being 15 **Members**.

b. Types of members

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

- **Individual Member**

A **Member** is an individual who has paid the subscription and been accepted into the society.

- **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 except those of paying subscriptions and levies.

- **Family Member**

A Family **Member** is an individual admitted to membership under this Constitution and who or which has not ceased to be a **Member**. All members applying for Family Membership must be domiciled at one address and have the rights of a member.

- **Patron**

Patron may be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

The Patron will promote the objects of the Society in a mainly ceremonial role and may attend but may not vote at Committee Meetings.

c. Becoming a member: consent

Every application for membership must consent in writing or online to becoming a **Member**.

d. Application for Membership

An applicant for membership must complete and sign any application form, supply any information reasonably required by the committee regarding an application for

membership and will become a member on acceptance of that application by the committee.

The committee may accept or decline an application for membership at its sole discretion. The committee must advise the applicant of its decision.

The signed written consent of every member to become a society member shall be retained in the society's membership records. Indication of consent via a digital/online form constitutes written consent.

e. Members' obligations and rights

Every **Member** shall provide the **Society** in writing with that **Member**'s name and contact details (namely, physical or email address and a telephone number) and promptly advise the **Society** in writing of any changes to those details.

- All **Members** shall promote the interests and purposes of the **Society** and shall do nothing to bring the **Society** into disrepute.
- A Member is only entitled to exercise the rights of membership (including attending and voting at Annual General Meeting / General Meetings, accessing or using the Society's premises, facilities, equipment and other property, and participating in Society activities) if all subscriptions and any other fees have been paid to the Society by their respective due dates, but no Member or Life Member is liable for an obligation of the Society by reason only of being a Member.
- The Committee may decide what access or use Members may have of or to any premises, facilities, equipment or other property owned, occupied or otherwise used by the Society, and participate in Society activities, including any conditions of and fees for such access, use or involvement.

f. Subscriptions and fees

The annual subscription and any other fees for membership for the then current financial year shall be set by the resolution of a **General Meeting** (which can also decide that payment be made by periodic instalments).

Any **Member** failing to pay the annual subscription (including any periodic payment), any levy, or any capitation fees, within **30 Working Days** of the date the same was due for payment shall be considered as unfinancial and shall (without being released from the obligation of payment) have no membership rights and shall not be entitled to participate in any **Society** activity or to access or use the **Society**'s premises, facilities, equipment and other property until all the arrears are paid. If such arrears are not paid within **30 Working Days** of the due date for payment of the subscription, any other fees, or levy the **Committee** may terminate the **Member**'s membership (without being required to give prior notice to that **Member**).

g. Ceasing to be a member

A **Member** ceases to be a **Member** -

- by resignation from that Member's class of membership by written notice signed by that Member to the Committee, or
- on termination of a Member's membership following a dispute resolution process under this Constitution, or
- by resolution of the Committee where -
 - The **Member** has failed to pay a subscription, levy or other amount due to the **Society** within **30 Working Days** of the due date for payment.
 - In the opinion of the **Committee** the **Member** has brought the **Society** into disrepute or
 - the date of receipt of the Member's notice of resignation by the Committee (or any subsequent date stated in the notice of resignation), or
 - the date of termination of the Member's membership under this Constitution, or
 - the date of death of the Member or
 - the date specified in a resolution of the Committee and when a Member's membership has been terminated the Committee shall promptly notify the former Member in writing.

h. Obligations once membership has ceased

A **Member** who has ceased to be a **Member** under this **Constitution** -

- remains liable to pay all subscriptions and other fees to the Society's next balance date,
- shall cease to hold himself or herself out as a Member of the Society, and
- shall return to the **Society** all material provided to **Members** by the **Society** (including any membership certificate, badges, handbooks and manuals and trophies).
- shall cease to be entitled to any of the rights of a Society Member.

i. Becoming a member again

Any former **Member** may apply for re-admission in the manner prescribed for new applicants and may be re-admitted only by resolution of the **Committee**.

But, if a former **Member**'s membership was terminated following a disciplinary or dispute resolution process, the applicant may be re-admitted only by a resolution passed at an **Annual General Meeting** on the recommendation of the **Committee**.

3. General Meetings

a. Procedures for all General Meetings

The **Committee** shall give all **Members** at least **30** 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 attend, speak and vote at **General Meetings** -

- in person, or
- by a signed original written proxy (an email or copy not being acceptable) in favour of some individual entitled to be present at the meeting and received by, or handed to, the Committee before the commencement of the General Meeting
- no other proxy voting, copy or email shall be permitted.

No **General Meeting** may be held unless at least **15** 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 or by proxy 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 or by proxy, and voting at a **General Meeting** shall be by voices or by show of hands or, on demand of the President.

Unless otherwise required by this **Constitution**, all questions shall be decided by a simple majority of those in attendance in person or by proxy 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**.

- All General Meetings shall be chaired by the President. If the President is absent, the Vice President shall chair that meeting.
- Any person chairing a General Meeting has a deliberate and, in the event of a tied vote, no 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**.
 - 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 **30 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**.

b. Minutes

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

c. 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.

d. 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 current financial year,
- consider any motions of which prior notice has been given to **Members** with notice of the **Meeting**, and
- consider any general business.

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).

e. Special General Meetings

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 Individual **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**.

4. Committee

a. Committee composition

The **Committee** will consist of at least 4 **Officers** - The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and no more than **30 Officers**.

Officers on the **Committee** must be members of the **Society**.

b. 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**.

c. Committee membership eligibility

The election of Committee members shall be by ballot at the Annual General Meeting. Such Officers shall retire annually but may offer themselves for re-election.

No Member who is un-financial may be elected to the Committee and any Officer who becomes un-financial during his/her term of office shall cease to hold office on the expiry of 14 (fourteen) days of his/her becoming un-financial.

No person shall be eligible for election to the Office of President who has not served at least one year as an Officer of the Society. No Member may be elected to the Committee until they have been a financial Member of the Society for at least six months.

d. 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**.

e. Sub-committees

The **Committee** may appoint sub-committees consisting of such persons (whether or not **Members** of the **Society**) and for such purposes as it thinks fit. Unless otherwise resolved by the **Committee** -

- the quorum of every sub-committee is half the members of the sub-committee but not less than 2,
- no sub-committee shall have power to co-opt additional members,
- 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.

f. 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.

5. Committee meetings

a. 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 members of the **Committee** shall elect one of their number as Vice President of the **Committee**. If at a meeting of the **Committee**, the Vice President is not present, the members of the **Committee** present may choose one of their number to be Vice President of the meeting. The Vice President 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.

b. Frequency

The **Committee** shall meet at least once per month. 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.

6. Officers

a. 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** from being appointed or holding office as an **Officer** of the **Society**, namely -

- a person who is under 16 years of age
- a person who is an undischarged bankrupt
- 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
- A person who is disqualified from being a member of the governing body of a charitable entity under the Charities Act 2005

- a person who has been convicted of any of the following, and has been sentenced for the offence, within the last 7 years –
 - an offence under subpart 6 of Part 4 of the **Act**
 - a crime involving dishonesty (within the meaning of section 2(1) of the Crimes Act 1961)
 - an offence under section 143B of the Tax Administration Act 1994
 - an offence, in a country other than New Zealand, that is substantially similar to an offence specified in subparagraphs (1) to (3)
 - a money laundering offence or an offence relating to the financing of terrorism, whether in New Zealand or elsewhere
- a person subject to:
 - a banning order under subpart 7 of Part 4 of the **Act**, or
 - an order under section 108 of the Credit Contracts and Consumer Finance Act 2003, or
 - a forfeiture order under the Criminal Proceeds (Recovery) Act 2009, or
 - 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.
- a person who is subject to an order that is substantially similar to an order referred to in paragraph (6) 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.

b. Officers' duties

At all times each **Officer**:

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

7. Role of the Committee

Subject to the Rules of the Society (“the Rules”), the role of the Management Committee is to:

- Administer and manage the Society
- Carry out the purposes of the Society, and use Money or other Assets to do that Manage the Society's financial affairs, including approving the annual financial statements for presentation to the Members at Annual General Meetings
- Set accounting policies in line with generally accepted accounting practice

- Ensure the Society is properly insured against burglary, loss, damage and other risks as may be prudent
- Delegate responsibility and co-opt Members where necessary
- Decide the times and dates for Meetings, and set the agenda for Meetings
- Propose Membership fees, including subscriptions and levies at the Annual General Meeting

The Committee will manage all the events for the calendar year that begins on 1 January following its appointment, including that year's 'Final Night', and will arrange the programme for the next calendar year.

The Management Committee has all of the powers of the Society, unless the Committee's power is limited by these Rules, or by a majority decision of the Society. All decisions of the Management Committee shall be by a majority vote. In the event of an equal vote, the **President** shall have a casting vote, that is, a second vote.

Revised: April 2025 to meet the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 reregistration.

Decisions of the Management Committee bind the Society, unless the Committee's power is limited by these Rules or by a majority decision of the Society.

a. Roles of the Committee Members

The **President** is responsible for:

- Ensuring that the Rules are followed
- Convening Committee Meetings and establishing whether or not a quorum (half of the Management Committee) is present
- Presiding at all meetings and signing all written contracts or obligations except when delegating another Committee member
- Overseeing the operations of the Society
- Providing a report on the operations of the Society to the Annual General Meeting

The **Vice President** is responsible for:

The Vice President is responsible for representing the club when the President is unavailable. They also assist the President with various tasks and may be assigned specific responsibilities by the club leadership.

The **Secretary** is responsible for:

- Recording the minutes of Meetings
- Keeping the Register of Members
- Holding the Society's records, documents, and books except those required for the Treasurer's function
- Receiving and replying to correspondence as required by the Committee

The **Treasurer** is responsible for:

- Keeping proper accounting records of the Society's financial transactions to allow the Society's financial position to be readily ascertained
- Providing accurate and complete financial information to the Management Committee as requested
- Preparing annual financial statements in accordance with the Society's accounting policies for presentation to the Annual General Meeting

Committee Members shall attend two thirds' meetings of the Management Committee and carry out such duties as are set out in these Rules and By-laws. They may undertake the organisation of some section(s) of the Society's functions and activities.

b. Election or appointment of officers

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

- At least 7 Working Days before the date of the Annual General Meeting, the Society shall give Notice to all Members by posting or emailing to them such information (not exceeding one side of an A4 sheet of paper) as may be supplied to the Society by or on behalf of each nominee, in support of the nomination.
- Only nominees who are not disqualified from being appointed or holding office as an Officer (as described in the 'Qualification of Officers' rule above) may stand for election and vote in elections.
- If there are insufficient valid nominations received under this rule, but not otherwise, further nominations may be received from the floor at the Annual General Meeting.
- Votes shall be cast in such a manner as the President of the Annual General Meeting shall determine.

- Two Members (who are not nominees) or non-Members appointed by the President of the Annual General Meeting 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 shall not invalidate the election.
- 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).
- 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)

c. Term

The term of office for all **Officers** elected to the **Committee** shall be expiring at the end of the **Annual General Meeting** in the year corresponding with the last year of each **Officer's** term of office.

- No Officer shall serve for more than 5 consecutive terms.
- No President shall serve for more than 5 consecutive years as President.

8. Removal of officers

a. 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**.

b. 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 **5 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**.

The four executive officers: The President, the Vice President, the Treasurer and the Secretary must operate a 30 calendar days' notice period following their resignation. A full handover must be given for all processes relating to that role, including the bank account sign off. This notice period is to ensure that at all stages, the Society can operate with two bank signatories.

c. 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) -

- to the Committee and or sub-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** -

- 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
- 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
- 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**.

9. Records

a. 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 –
 - A physical address or an electronic address, and
 - A telephone number.
- The register will also include each Member's –
 - Postal address
 - Email address
 - Whether a Member is financial or unfinancial

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.

b. 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.

c. Access to information for members

A **Member** may at any time make a written request to the **Society** for their 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 -

- provide the information, or
- agree to provide the information within a specified period, or
- agree to provide the information within a specified period or
- 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 -

- withholding the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons, or
- the disclosure of the information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the position of the Society or of any of its Members, or
- the information is not relevant to the operation or affairs of the society, or
- 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
- the request for the information is frivolous or vexatious, or
- 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** -

- that the Member will pay the charge; or
- 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.

d. Ownership / Copyright

RPS reserves the right of ownership of all forms of digital and written information generated through the club activities and will be acknowledged as copyright © of RPS.

10. Finances

a. 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 **7 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 -

- correctly record the transactions of the Society, and
- allow the Society to produce financial statements that comply with the requirements of the Act, and
- 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**.

b. Balance date

The **Society's** financial year shall commence on **01 July** of each year and end on **30 June** (the latter date being the **Society's** balance date).

11. Dispute resolution

a. 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 -

- 2 or more Members
- 1 or more Members and the Society
- 1 or more Members and 1 or more Officers
- 2 or more Officers
- 1 or more Officers and the Society
- 1 or more Members or Officers and the Society.

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

- a Member or an Officer has engaged in misconduct
- a Member or an Officer has breached, or is likely to breach, a duty under the Society's Constitution or bylaws or the Act
- the Society has breached, or is likely to breach, a duty under the Society's Constitution or bylaws or the Act
- 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 -

- states that the Member or Officer is starting a procedure for resolving a dispute in accordance with the Society's Constitution; and
- sets out the allegation(s) to which the dispute relates and whom the allegation or allegations is or are against; and
- 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 -

- states that the Society is starting a procedure for resolving a dispute in accordance with the Society's Constitution; and
- 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.

b. How a 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 -

- states that the **Member** or **Officer** is starting a procedure for resolving a dispute in accordance with the **Society's Constitution**; and
- sets out the allegation or allegations to which the dispute relates and whom the allegation is against; and

- 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 –
 - states that the **Society** is starting a procedure for resolving a dispute in accordance with the **Society's Constitution**; and
 - sets out the allegation to which the dispute relates.
- 3. The information given under subclause (7a.) or (7b.) 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**.

c. 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 –
 - the **Society** has a right to be heard before the complaint is resolved or any outcome is determined; and
 - 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 –
 - they have a reasonable opportunity to be heard in writing or at an oral hearing (if one is held); and
 - an oral hearing is held if the decision maker considers that an oral hearing is needed to ensure an adequate hearing; and
 - an oral hearing (if any) is held before the decision maker; and

- the **Member's, Officer's, or Society's** written or verbal statement or submissions (if any) are considered by the decision maker.

d. Person who is subject of the 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') –
 - has engaged in misconduct; or
 - has breached, or is likely to breach, a duty under the **Society's Constitution** or bylaws or this **Act**; or
 - 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 –
 - 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
 - the respondent has a reasonable opportunity to be heard in writing or at an oral hearing (if one is held); and
 - an oral hearing is held if the decision maker considers that an oral hearing is needed to ensure an adequate hearing; and
 - an oral hearing (if any) is held before the decision maker; and
 - the respondent's written statement or submissions (if any) are considered by the decision maker.

e. 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**.

f. 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:
 - that a **Member** or an **Officer** has engaged in material misconduct;
 - 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**;
 - 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.

g. Society may refer the complaint

1. The **Society** may refer a complaint to –

- a subcommittee or an external person to investigate and report; or
- 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.

h. 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 -

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

12. Liquidation and removal from the register

a. 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 **30 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 **two-thirds** majority of all **Members** present and voting.

b. 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 **30 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 **two-thirds** majority of all **Members** present and voting.

c. Surplus assets

If the **Society** is liquidated or removed from the Register of Incorporated Societies, no distribution shall be made to any **Member**.

On the liquidation or removal from the Register of Incorporated Societies of the **Society**, its surplus assets — after payment of all debts, costs and liabilities — shall be transferred to some not-for-profit entity having similar purposes to those of the Society, and to be determined by the Society at or before the time of winding up.

However, in any resolution under this rule, the **Society** may approve a different distribution to a different not-for-profit entity from that specified above, so long as the **Society** complies with this **Constitution** and the **Act** in all other respects.

13. Alterations to the constitution

a. Amending this constitution

All amendments must be made in accordance with this **Constitution**. Any minor or technical amendments shall be notified to **Members** as required by section 31 of the **Act**.

The **Society** may amend or replace this **Constitution** at a **General Meeting** by a resolution passed by a **two-thirds of** majority of those **Members** present and voting. That amendment may be approved by a resolution passed in lieu of a meeting but only if authorised by this **Constitution**.

Any proposed resolution to amend or replace this **Constitution** shall be signed by at least **66** per cent of eligible **Members** and given in writing to the **Committee** at least **30 Working Days** before the **General Meeting** at which the resolution is to be considered and accompanied by a written explanation of the reasons for the proposal.

At least **30 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.

14. Other

a. 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.

15. Ratified

The changes to the Rules were presented to the Members of the **Society** on 18 November 2025 and duly accepted by those present.

President: Keith Sycamore

Vice President: Allan McGregor

Secretary: Sandra McCoy