



The Society for Creative Anachronism (NZ) Inc.

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AGM Agenda 2012

1. AGM opens
2. Apologies of Absence
3. Accept minutes from the 2011 AGM (see sca.org.nz/documents)
4. Accept report from the Chair (included with agenda mail-out)
5. Accept the report from the Treasurer (included with agenda mail-out)
6. Revision of Constitution – motions as follow below
7. Identification of any proposed rule changes which shall not be considered – summary of motions follow below
8. Other Business
9. AGM closes

REVISION OF CONSTITUTION:

Motion 1 – From David Robb and Katherine Davies

That Part II Section 5.5 (Resignations) part (b) be amended as follows:

FROM

b. If a Committee member misses more than 3 consecutive meetings of the society without apology or reasonable cause, they will be deemed to have resigned their position and will be removed from the Committee. In this case nominations will be called to replace them as soon as practical.

TO

b. If a Committee member misses more than 3 consecutive meetings of the society or committee without apology or reasonable cause, they will be deemed to have resigned their position and will be removed from the Committee. In this case nominations will be called to replace them as soon as practical.

Rationale - we rarely hold more than one meeting of the Society per year (the AGM), so by the time a Committee member has missed three it is likely that their three-year term will also be up. This alteration places an onus upon committee members to attend not only society

meetings, but committee meetings (also rare).

Motion 2 - From David Robb and Katherine Davies

That Part II Section 5.6 (Disqualification of Committee Members) part (c) be altered by the removal of subpart 3:

DELETE

3. 75% of the current members of the Geographical Branch they represent.

Rationale - SCANZ committee members are no longer elected to represent specific geographical branches.

MOTION 3 by Alasdair Muckart

That Part II Section 14 (Changes to the Rules of the Society) part (e) be amended as follows:

FROM

e. No addition to or alteration or recession of the rules shall be made if it affects the non-profit aims, personal benefit clause, or the winding up clause.

TO

e. No addition to or alteration or recession of the rules shall be made if it affects the non-profit aims, personal benefit clause, the winding up clause, or this clause.

Rationale: Adds a safety net to stop that clause being removed from the rules and opening the other clauses up for edit/removal.

Motion 4 – From David Robb (In five parts)

[rationale for all changes at end of motion]

Motion, part 1 - That Part II Section 9 (Meetings of the Society) have a new clause added as follows, after part (a):

The committee may elect to hold any Society Meeting as a Postal meeting, wherein all voting shall be done by either electronic or postal mail. In such a case, the Location of the Meeting shall be published as "Postal" and no actual physical meeting of members shall be required to be convened.

Motion, part 2 - That Part II Section 9 (Meetings of the Society) part (b) shall be amended as follows:

FROM

b. Quorum for a meeting of the Society shall be 2/3 of the sitting Committee, plus an equal number of Society members. Either the chairperson of the committee or the Society secretary must attend the meeting. The chairperson of the committee will chair the meeting. In their absence the Society secretary will chair the meeting.

TO

b. Quorum for a physical meeting of the Society shall be 2/3 of the sitting Committee, plus an equal number of Society members. Either the chairperson of the committee or the Society secretary must attend the meeting. The chairperson of the committee will chair the meeting. In their absence the Society secretary will chair the meeting.

Motion, part 3 – That Part II Section 9 (Meetings of the Society) have a new part inserted after part (a), renumbering later parts as required:

Quorum for a Postal meeting of the Society shall be determined on a motion-by-motion basis by the number of valid votes cast for that motion, and shall be the greater of 10 or 10% of the number of current members of the Society as determined at the beginning of day on which the meeting date was announced. Two scrutineers selected by the committee who are not themselves members of the committee or corporate officers must be present when the votes are counted. The names of these people shall be published to the members with the agenda for the meeting.

Motion, part 4 – That Part II Section 9.1 (Annual General Meetings) part (a) be amended as follows:

FROM

a. An AGM shall be held for the purposes of obtaining the members' approval of the end-of-year accounts as required by section 23 (2) of the Act. The AGM shall be held within the period 4 weeks either side of the 15th November and hosted by alternating Geographical Branches as determined by the committee. The Society Treasurer must be present either in person or by proxy.

TO

a. An AGM shall be held for the purposes of obtaining the members' approval of the end-of-year accounts as required by section 23 (2) of the Act. The AGM shall be held within the period 4 weeks either side of the 15th November and hosted by alternating Geographical Branches as determined by the committee. The Society Treasurer must be present

either in person or by proxy. If the meeting is a Postal meeting, then the requirement for Geographical Branch hosting is removed, and the Society Treasurer shall make the end-of-year accounts available to the members before or at the time the agenda is published, and shall make reasonable efforts to answer member's queries regarding the accounts prior to the cut-off date for the receipt of votes.

Motion, part 5 - That Part II Section 9.2 (Voting at a Meeting of the Society) part (a) shall be amended as follows:

FROM

a. All eligible members may vote on business at a meeting of the Society, either by attending the meeting in person or registering their vote by postal mail or electronic mail to the Registrar not less than one (1) week prior to the date of the meeting.

TO

a. All eligible members may vote on business at a meeting of the Society, either by registering their vote by postal mail or electronic mail to the Registrar not less than one (1) week prior to the date of the meeting, or by attending the meeting in person (unless the meeting is a Postal meeting)

Rationale - the following motion enables the Committee to elect to hold a society meeting (including the AGM) entirely by postal/email ballot. Since our rules preclude the ability to make motions from the floor, physical meetings where people gather together serve little purpose beyond facilitating questioning of the committee or treasurer, which can and should be encouraged to happen on the mailing lists. This motion is presented as several parts, but is intended to be voted on as a single motion as the parts are interdependent.

This is the intended arrangement of clauses in Section 9 if the motion is passed:

9 Meetings of the Society

a. Meetings of the Society may be held in order to change the rules or conduct other business . . . etc.

b. The committee may elect to hold any Society Meeting as a Postal meeting . . .etc.

c. Quorum for a Postal meeting of the Society shall be . . . etc.

d. Quorum for a physical meeting of the Society shall be . . . etc.

e. Notice of the time and place of the meeting . . .etc.

Motion 5 – By David Robb

That Part II Section 14 (Changes to the Rules of the Society) part (b) be amended as follows:

FROM

b. Any proposed rule changes, and the date of the meeting at which those changes will be voted on must be published to the members of the Society no less than six (6) weeks in advance of that meeting.

TO

b. Any proposed rule changes, the date, and location of the meeting at which those changes will be voted on must be published to the members of the Society no less than six (6) weeks in advance of the meeting.

Rationale - an astute observer will note that this motion appears to replace the existing wording of the rules with the same wording (with only a small addition of the meeting location). However, this motion is required because the motion passed back in 2009 which modified this clause had a second sentence which solicited feedback from the membership, and this sentence appears to have been silently dropped from the rules. This motion therefore formalises the current situation, as I believe the feedback clause serves no useful purpose (See also the next motion (6))

Motion 6 – by David Robb

That Part II Section 14 (Changes to the Rules of the Society) part (c) be deleted:

DELETE

c. Changes shall not be considered by the Committee if feedback from the membership indicates the majority of members substantively oppose those changes.

and parts (d) and (e) be renumbered appropriately.

Rationale - The committee makes (and doesn't make) changes to the rules based upon voting by the membership upon motions put forth. If the membership does not wish a change to happen, then they vote against it.

Motion 7 By David Robb

That Part II Section 14 (Changes to the Rules of the Society) part (d) (or c. if renumbered by Motion 2) be amended as follows:

FROM

d. Such an alteration shall not come into effect until the altered rules have been registered with, and accepted by the registrar of incorporated societies as required by the Act.

TO

d. Such an alteration shall not come into effect until the altered rules have been registered with, and accepted by the registrar of incorporated societies as required by the Act, the rules updated on the SCANZ website, and the members notified of the date and content of the change.

Rationale - The membership needs to be able to access the current rules, and be made aware as to when changes which have been voted upon take effect.

Motion 8 By David Robb

That Part II Section 9 (Meetings of the Society) part (c) be amended as follows:

FROM

c. Notice of the time and place of the meeting, including the agenda, must be published to the members not less than eight (8) weeks prior to the date of the meeting. The agenda may not be changed after being published to the members.

TO

c. Notice of the time and place of the meeting, including the agenda, must be published to the members not less than six (6) weeks prior to the date of the meeting. The agenda may not be changed within six (6) weeks of the meeting, but may be altered prior to this as long as the agenda is republished.

Rationale - This brings 9.c in line with the changes that were made to 15.b back in 2009, allows for additional notice to be given if desired, and for changes to the agenda to be made up to the minimum notice period.

Motion 9 By David Robb and Katherine Davies

That Part II Section 9.1 (Annual General Meetings) part (b) be renumbered to (c) and amended as follows, with new parts (b) and (d):

FROM

b. Notices of motion for the AGM may be submitted by any eligible member and must be submitted to the Committee for inclusion in the agenda not later than ten (10) weeks prior to the AGM.

TO

b. Notice of the date and location for the AGM shall be published to the members not

less than ten (10) weeks prior to the date of the meeting, and shall be accompanied by a call for motions.

c. Motions for the AGM may be submitted by any member. Such motions must be submitted to the Committee for inclusion in the agenda not later than eight (8) weeks prior to the AGM.

d. The agenda for the AGM shall be published to the members in accordance with the Meetings of the Society section of this document.

Rationale - This makes the status of the AGM as the primary opportunity for members to submit motions for the Society explicit; and requires the date (but not the agenda) to be announced ten weeks in advance, so that the membership have a minimum of two weeks to prepare any motions; after which the committee have a minimum of two weeks to prepare and publish the agenda, six weeks before the meeting itself, in accordance with section 9.3 and 15.b.

Motion 10 -- By David Robb and Katherine Davies

That Part II Section 5.3 (Nominations to the Committee) part (d) be amended as follows:

FROM

d. The list of current nominations to the committee shall be publicly available on the committee website. Feedback on any nominee may be sent in confidence to the committee at any time by any member of the society.

TO

d. The list of current nominations to the committee and the date of expiry of their nomination shall be publicly available on the committee website.

Rationale - This motion adds the date of expiry of the nomination, so that it can be tracked and the nomination expired as required by the rules. It removes the clause about feedback, as there is no process or authority for the committee to act upon any feedback received (the committee only receives nominations, it does not approve them, or control them in any way).

Motion 11-- By David Robb and Katherine Davies

That Part II Section 5.4 (Election of Committee Members) be amended as follows:

FROM

a. Only current members of the society are eligible for selection.

b. Selection of a new committee member from the list of nominees shall be made by a vote of the membership of the society. The vote shall be

conducted at the Annual General Meeting of the society, or at a Special General Meeting of the society, convened for the purpose of conducting the vote. The nominated member receiving the most votes at the meeting shall be appointed to the committee.

c. If there is only one eligible member on the list of nominees at the time a new committee member is required, no vote need be held but notice of the appointment will be made to the membership.

TO

a. Only current members of the society are eligible for selection.

b. When a new committee member is required, there shall be a period of no fewer than two (2) weeks during which nominations are called for from the membership. During this period existing nominees should confirm their willingness to stand for the current (or immediately expected) vacancy.

c. Selection of a new committee member from the list of nominees shall be made by a vote of the membership of the society. The vote shall be conducted at the Annual General Meeting of the society, or at a Special General Meeting of the society, convened for the purpose of conducting the vote. The nominated member receiving the most votes at the meeting shall be appointed to the committee.

d. If there is only one eligible member on the list of nominees at the time of the election, no vote need be held but notice of the appointment will be made to the membership.

Rationale - This motion allows for additional nominations (or withdrawals) at the time of a vacancy. The aim is to increase the pool of potential committee members, by catering both for those who are able to register their intentions up to two years in advance, and to those who are unable to do so for some reason (for example, because of other SCA offices they periodically hold).

MOTIONS NOT CONSIDERED:

Two motions were received from Alasdair Muckart which will not be considered at this AGM, as they are identical in effect to motions 6 and 8 above, already submitted by David Robb.