

SCANZ AGM Agenda 2008

1. AGM open
2. Apologies of Absence
3. Accept minutes from the previous meeting
4. Accept report from the Chair (included with agenda mail-out)
5. Accept the report from the Interim Treasurer (included with agenda mail-out)
6. Revision of Constitution
7. Identification of any proposed rule changes, which shall not be considered, following received feedback.
8. Other Business
9. AGM closed

REVISION OF CONSTITUTION:

Motion 1 received from Peter Hyde on 28 August 2008.

“I move that the following six connected changes to the Society Rules be accepted as a group and that, should one or more of the clauses involved be the subject of unrelated and successful motions at this AGM, that the import of the changes below to the clause(s) in question be applied to the outcome of the other successful motion(s).” Peter Hyde.

Discussion: In common use, "day-membership" has been supplanted by the more accurate "event membership" and our rules should reflect that.

Motion 1a - Definitions, clause (e), be changed from:

(e) "Day- member" is an individual who is not a current financial member, but who has been granted temporary membership with limited privileges for a single event.

to

(e) "Event member" is an individual who is not a current financial member, but who has been granted temporary membership with limited privileges for a single event.

Motions 1b - Section 4.1 (a)

Change:

(a) The classes of membership of the Society are as follows: 1. Sustaining membership 2. Associate membership 3. Family membership 4. Day-membership

to

Section 4.1 (a)

The classes of membership of the Society are as follows:

1. Sustaining member ship

2. Associate membership
3. Family membership
4. Event membership

Motion 1c - Section 4.1 (b) clause 4

Change:

4. Day-membership is required by any individual who is not currently a financial member attending a Society event. Day-membership will be granted for the duration of a single event upon the completion of a Day-membership form and payment of any fees that may apply. Day membership does not convey the privileges of a sustaining or associate membership, or the right to vote.

to:

4. Event membership is required by any individual who is not currently a financial member, attending a Society event. Event membership will be granted for the duration of a single event upon the completion of an Event membership form and payment of any fees that may apply. Event membership does not convey the privileges of a sustaining or associate membership, or the right to vote.

Motion 1d - Section 4.1, clause (c):

Change

(c) New members of the Society, with the exception of Day-members, shall receive the current copy of the annual edition of the official newsletter of the Society.

to:

(c) New members of the Society, with the exception of Event members, shall receive the current copy of the annual edition of the official newsletter of the Society.

Motion 1e - Section 4.1, clause (d):

Change:

(d) Every member of the Society, with the exception of Day-members (defined above) will be eligible for office within the Society, subject to the requirements for such office and to submit and vote upon motions at meetings of the Society.

to:

(d) Every member of the Society, with the exception of Event members, will be eligible for office within the Society, subject to the requirements for such office, and to submit and vote upon motions at meetings of the Society.

Motion 1f - Section 4.2, clause (c)

Change:

(c) Participants at Society events who have entered their details on a Day-membership form shall be considered members for the duration of that event but shall accrue none of the privileges extended to sustaining or associate members.

to:

(c) Participants at Society events who have entered their details on an Event membership form shall be considered members for the duration of that event, but shall accrue none of the privileges extended to sustaining or associate members.

Motion 2 - received from Peter Hyde on 28 August 2008

I move that the following change to the Society Rules be accepted:

Section 6, clause (a):

Change from:

(a) A Registrar and a Treasurer shall be appointed as Corporate Officers of the Society by 2/3 majority vote of the Committee. Committee members may not hold the office of Treasurer or Registrar of the Society nor be a Committee member or officer of the SCAA. A Corporate Officer may be removed for specific and stated just reasons, including but not limited to failure to carry out their specified duties, subject to 2/3-majority vote of the Committee.

to:

(a) A Registrar and a Treasurer shall be appointed as Corporate Officers of the Society by 2/3 majority vote of the Committee. Committee members may not hold the office of Treasurer or Registrar of the Society. A Corporate Officer may be removed for specific and stated just reasons, including but not limited to failure to carry out their specified duties, subject to 2/3-majority vote of the Committee.

Discussion: This removes the phrase "nor be a Committee member or officer of the SCAA" as its relevance has been questioned.

Motion 3 - Received from Richard Dagger, Alistair Muckart, and Melissa Brown Muckart on 28 August 2008

I would like to make the following motion that the four membership types listed in S.4.1 of the SCANZ Rules, currently:

- Subscribing (paper) - \$45
- Subscribing (electronic) - \$20
- Family - \$20
- Associate - \$20

Be reduced to:

- Subscribing (paper) - \$45
- Subscribing (electronic) - \$20

Discussion: There is no need for Family or Associate memberships considering the cost of membership is the same as for Subscribing (electronic) but provides fewer privileges.

Note: This motion does not change fee amounts. It does not affect any changes brought about by the passing of Motion 1b, above.

Motion 4 - Received from Richard Dagger, Alistair Muckart, and Melissa Brown Muckart on 6 September 2008

Restrictions of office.

Discussion: This is just a minor piece of housekeeping that makes subsequent changes easier. It doesn't actually change anything.

We the undersigned move that the paragraph 5.1(c) of the current rules be moved verbatim from section 5.1 to a section of it's own immediately following section 5.1, and that references and subsequent sections of the rules be renumbered as appropriate.

Currently Paragraph 5.1(c) reads as follows:

"(c) Committee members may not be:

1. Seneschal of any sized group,
2. Reeve of any group of size barony or above,
3. Any other officer of any kingdom,
4. Baron or Baroness of any barony,
5. Prince or Princess of any principality,
6. King or Queen of any kingdom."

Motion 5

Two similar motions were submitted in relation to Section 5.1, paragraphs d, e, and f of the current rules. The two motions differ only in one minor aspect, specifically, the order in

which Committee Members assume roles on the Committee. Please note only ONE of these Motions may be successfully passed into the Rules.

Motion 5a - Received from Richard Dagger, Alistair Muckart, and Melissa Brown Muckart on 6 September 2008

Roles of the Committee Members

Discussion: This motion simplifies the language describing the roles of the committee members and puts forward a simpler and more workable structure for the selection of the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. The structure we put forward has the most experienced member holding the chair, and no explicit procedures are required to appoint the positions because they are based on time on the committee.

We the undersigned move that section 5.1, paragraphs d, e, and f of the current rules be removed and replaced with the following text, and that all references and subsequent paragraphs be renumbered as appropriate:

"The Committee shall have a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary. These positions shall be allocated in order of time served in their current terms on the committee, with the longest-serving committee member holding the Chair and the newest committee member holding the position of Secretary. The Vice-Chairman shall assume the chair when the Chairman leaves the committee, and shall chair any meetings of the society the Chairman of the committee is unable to attend."

"All members of the committee must be members of the Society throughout their term of office. All Committee members must be at least 18 years of age and resident in New Zealand for at least one year prior to the start of their term."

OR

Motion 6b – Submitted by the SCANZ Committee

Roles of the Committee Members

Discussion: This motion is similar to that submitted by Richard Dagger, Alistair Muckart, and Melissa Brown Muckart on 6 September 2008. However, the current Committee would alter the order in which members would assume roles within the Committee. The newest member would be Secretary, then become Chair, and then Vice-Chair. This is intended to avoid the observed problem of Committee members reaching "burn-out" at the end of their second year just as they are obliged to assume the heavier duties of Chair. This would also provide a Vice-Chair with a year's experience in each of the other roles, giving them greater flexibility and skill in filling either duty when needed.

We, the Committee, move that Section 5.1, paragraphs d, e, and f of the current rules be removed and replaced with the following text, and that all references and subsequent paragraphs be renumbered as appropriate:

"The Committee shall have a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary. The newest member on the Committee shall serve as Secretary, then as Chair, and then as Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chairman may act in place of either the Chair or the Secretary in the event that one of those individuals is temporarily unable to perform their duties."

"In the event that two new members shall join the Committee simultaneously, the roles of Secretary and Vice-Chair shall be assigned as the Committee sees fit. The role of Chair shall be assumed by the remaining experienced Committee Member, regardless of which role they would have been otherwise due to assume. In the event that all three Committee members are new, the roles shall be assigned as the Committee sees fit."

"All members of the committee must be members of the Society throughout their term of office. All Committee members must be at least 18 years of age and resident in New Zealand for at least one year prior to the start of their term."

Paragraphs d, e, and f currently read as follows:

"(d) The Committee shall have a Chairperson, a Secretary, and not fewer than one other Committee member, all of whom shall be members in good standing of the Society throughout their term of office. All Committee members must be at least 18 years of age and resident in New Zealand for at least one year prior to the start of their term.

(e) The Chairperson shall be selected at the first meeting of the committee following the AGM. The normal term shall be until the next such post- AGM meeting. In the event of the Chairperson stepping down, for whatever reason, in the middle of their term, a meeting shall be held by the Committee to select a new Chairperson who shall hold the position until the next post- AGM meeting. If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, or may not serve as Chairperson for any reason then the Committee shall vote to select one of their members to act as Chairperson for the duration of that meeting.

(f) The position of Secretary shall be held for such time as the person elected to the position remains on the Committee and willing to hold the position. The Secretary may step down from their position as Secretary at a meeting of the Committee. A new Secretary shall be elected immediately."

Motion 7 - Received from Richard Dagger, Alistair Muckart, and Melissa Brown Muckart on 6 September 2008

Resignation from the committee

Discussion: This motion establishes a notice period for resigning committee members, though the word "should" rather than "must" allows for a shorter period in exceptional circumstances.

We the undersigned move that paragraph 5.4(a) of the current rules be removed and replaced with the following text.

"A Committee member wishing to resign before the expiry of their term should give the committee not less than 10 weeks advance notice, in writing or by email, whereupon a replacement member shall be selected as per the process set out in section 5.3"

Paragraph 5.4(a) currently reads as follows:

"Committee members may resign before the expiry of their term by providing a written notice to the committee. Upon receiving notice of resignation the committee shall call for a replacement for the resigning member as per section 5.2 as soon as possible."

Motion 8 - Received from Richard Dagger, Alistair Muckart, and Melissa Brown Muckart on 6 September 2008

Nominations to the committee

Discussion: This motion changes the nomination mechanism for prospective committee members from requiring a proposing member and requiring calls for nominations to be made in the kingdom newsletter, to simply allowing members to put their names forward at any time. It does not otherwise affect the structure or selection process of the committee.

We, the undersigned, move that Section 5.2, paragraphs b and c of the current SCANZ rules be removed and replaced with the following text, and that references and subsequent sections of part 5 of the rules be re-numbered as necessary.

"Any member of the society may nominate themselves to the committee at any time by submitting their nomination in writing or by email to the committee.

Nominations will stand for 24 months, after which time the nominees name will be removed from the list. Members may re-nominate themselves immediately if this happens. Nominated members may request to be removed from the list at any time, without being required to specify a reason, by making the request in writing or by email to the committee."

Section 5.2 of the current rules reads as follows:

"5.2 Nominations to the Committee

(a) No previous representative shall be eligible for nomination to the Committee until twelve (12) months has passed since the final meeting of their previous term.

(b) Calls for nominations to the Committee shall be made in the kingdom newsletter at least two months before the expiry of the term of any Committee member.

Nominations must be signed by the proposing member and nominee to signify a willingness to stand for election.

(c) Both proposing member and nominee must be members of the Society."

Motion 9. Received from Richard Dagger, Alistair Muckart, and Melissa Brown Muckart on 6 September 2008

Discussion: This motion brings us into line with the SCAA and SCA, Inc. both of whom publish lists of current nominations on their websites and invite comment on any nominees. We believe this is a model the SCANZ should adopt in the interests of openness.

We the undersigned move that the following text be added to the end of section 5.2 as a new paragraph:

"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."

Motion 10 - Received from Richard Dagger, Alistair Muckart, and Melissa Brown Muckart on 6 September 2008

Selection and Appointment of Committee Members

Discussion: This motion changes the selection mechanism for new committee members from a single group voting on the new member, to the entire national membership voting on the new member. We believe this is a fairer selection mechanism because the actions of the committee affect the entire country, not individual groups, so committee membership is of interest to all groups. This motion does not rely on, but has been designed to complement our motion above that changes the nomination process.

We the undersigned move that section 5.3 of the current rules be removed and replaced in its entirety with the following, and that references and subsequent paragraph and sections be renumbered as necessary.

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

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.

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."

Section 5.3 currently reads as follows:

"5.3 Election of Committee Members

- (a) Selection of a new Geographical Branch representative from acceptable nominees will be made by a majority vote of the members of the Geographical Branch they are to represent, in a vote to be conducted at a meeting of that Geographical Branch convened for the purpose.
- (b) Should there be only a single nominee, they must receive affirmative votes from the majority of those present at the meeting.
- (c) At this meeting, all current members of the Society resident in that Geographical Branch will be eligible to vote. Members resident outside of a Geographical Branch may vote with their nearest Branch."

Motion 11 - Received from Richard Dagger, Alistair Muckart, and Melissa Brown Muckart on 6 September 2008

Structure of the committee

Discussion: This motion changes the structure of the committee from one formed from representatives of each geographical branch, to a fixed-size committee of three members. We believe the geographical representative system in the current rules will not scale with the growth of the society, and will result in an unnecessarily large committee for the size of the membership base we have in New Zealand leading to burnout and difficulty or failure to find people willing to serve on the committee. We also believe it to be unnecessary given the national scope of the committee and it's inability to affect individual groups in isolation. This motion is designed to complement, but does not rely on, the changes to the nomination process we suggest above.

We the undersigned move that Section 5.1, paragraphs a and b, be removed and replaced with the following text and that references be updated where necessary:

"The Committee shall be comprised of three members selected from a standing list of nominated candidates. No previous Committee Member shall be eligible for election to the Committee until 12 months after stepping down.

The normal term for Committee members shall be three years, with terms ending at the close of the 3rd AGM following their appointment. In the event that a committee member is elected at an SGM less than six months before an AGM, they may choose to serve until the fourth AGM following their appointment.

In the event of no acceptable nominee being available to replace an outgoing member, and if the outgoing member is willing to continue serving, the term may be extended for a period not to exceed six months by a unanimous vote of the remaining Committee members."