

THE LIGHTHOUSE CLUB
CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. **Name**

The name of the Club shall be The Lighthouse Club.

2. **Membership**

- (a) Membership will be open to both men and women who are connected with the Construction Industry and allied trades and recognised trade journals and trade newspapers. Life membership shall be available to a limited number of men and women to be admitted at the discretion of Council.
- (b) Every member shall be furnished with a membership card.
- (c) Council shall be empowered to expel any member whose conduct has been likely to bring the Club into disrepute if Council considers it necessary in the interests of the Club.

3. **Objects**

The Club is a non-political organisation and is intended to ensure good fellowship among members and co-operation in every respect and whenever possible. Its objects are;

- To be the main fundraiser for the Lighthouse Club Benevolent Fund [Reg'd No. 205670] whose charitable objects are the relief of poverty suffered as a result of accident, disability or ill-health by persons employed or formerly employed in the Construction Industry and allied trades.
- To form branches of the Club which shall be subject to the rules and regulations for branches from time to time laid down by Council.
- To hold at least one National Dinner every year.

- To provide, wherever possible, Club amenities at exhibitions.
- To allocate funds to support the education and training of young people in the construction industry and allied trades, who would otherwise be prevented from doing so due to personal and financial hardship which is not of their own making.

4. (a) **Officers**

- (i) The Officers of the Club are the President, Vice President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, all of whom are appointed by Council.
- (ii) The Officers serve for a term of three years from the Annual General Meeting in the year of appointment, retiring at the Annual General Meeting in the third year after appointment.
- (iii) An Administrative Secretary is appointed by Council under a formal agreement as to his/her terms of reference and term of appointment.

(b) **Council**

- (i) The Council is responsible for conducting the affairs of the Club.
- (ii) The voting members of Council comprise;
 - The Officers of the Club (other than the President and the Vice President);
 - Not more than ten Nominated Members nominated by Council and endorsed at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with procedures from time to time laid down by Council; and
 - Not more than five Elected Members elected by the membership of the Club.

- Nominations for election of Elected Members must be made in writing and submitted to the Secretary before 31st December. Nominations must be proposed, seconded and supported by ten members of the Club. Should there be more nominations than vacancies available, a ballot will be held at the Annual General Meeting.
- (iii) The non-voting members of Council comprise those members from time to time co-opted by Council to serve for a period determined at the date of co-option, and which may be extended by Council at Council's discretion.
 - (iv) The President, the Vice President, Past Presidents, Honorary Life Vice Presidents, the Chairman of Trustees of the Lighthouse Club Benevolent Fund, and co-opted members may attend and speak at meetings of Council but have no vote.
 - (v) All Nominated and Elected members of Council serve for a term of three years retiring at the AGM in the third year. They may be re-nominated or re-elected following the expiry of each term of office.
 - (vi) If there is a casual vacancy amongst Nominated or Elected Members, Council may appoint any member of the Club as a voting member to fill the vacancy until the next AGM. Members appointed to fill a casual vacancy may thereafter be nominated or elected to Council without any restriction.
 - (vii) The quorum for meetings of Council shall be six voting members present at the meeting.
 - (viii) Each voting member of Council has one vote. All decisions of Council are made by a majority of those present and entitled to vote. The Chairman has a casting vote.

5. Subscriptions

The Annual Subscription determined by the Council is payable by every member by bankers order, or by such other means as is appropriate. Any member failing to pay his/her annual subscription shall automatically be expelled.

6. Funds and Audit

- (a) A bank account shall be maintained in the name of “The Lighthouse Club” and monies not required for current expenditure shall be deposited in that account or invested as the Council may decide.
- (b) The financial year for the Club and its branches shall end on 31 December each year.
- (c) At the end of each financial year, the Club’s accounts shall be audited by a firm of Chartered Accountants to be appointed by the Council.
- (d) Each branch of the club shall submit approved accounts for each financial year to the Treasurer by 31 March in the following year.

7. General Meetings

- (a) There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the members of the Club not later than 30 June in each year and Extraordinary General Meetings may be convened by Council as and when necessary.
- (b) The Administrative Secretary will prepare and circulate an agenda to all members of the Club at least 14 clear days before any General Meeting
- (c) At the AGM the Treasurer shall submit the audited accounts for approval and adoption by the members of the Club, and the Chairman shall present a report on the Club’s activities during the past year.

- (d) Any proposals for an alteration of amendment of the Rules by a member must be submitted in writing at least one month before the General Meeting at which it is to be considered.

8. Rules

The Council shall be the only authority for seeing that the Rules are upheld and also upon any other matter concerning the Club and its branches which may not be provided for in these Rules.

Alterations to the Rules may be proposed by Council; or by a member, with the approval of Council, in writing at least one month before any General Meeting.

In each case the alterations must be approved by a majority of the members of the Club present at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting convened for the purposes.