

EDINBURGH AND MIDLOTHIAN BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. The name of the Association shall be the "EDINBURGH AND MIDLOTHIAN BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION".
2. The objects of the Association shall be the encouragement and the advancement of Beekeeping.
3. MEMBERSHIP. The Association may elect to Honorary Membership any member who has rendered eminent service to Beekeeping. Ordinary membership shall be open without election to those interested in Beekeeping. Ordinary members shall pay their subscription annually, on or before January for the year commencing. The Committee may alter the amount of the subscription as they consider necessary.
4. The Association shall have an Executive Committee consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, *ex Officio*, the immediate Past President, and six members, two of whom shall retire each year and not be eligible for re-election until after one year. The Committee may co-opt up to four additional members, who shall serve until the next Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall manage the affairs of the Association, subject to any limitations that the latter may impose. Five shall form a quorum.

The election of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be for a term of one year. The President and Vice President shall not hold office for more than three years in succession. The Vice President shall accede to the office of President on the retirement of the serving President.

Each Candidate for election must be nominated by one member and seconded by another. Nominations may be communicated in writing to the Secretary or they may be made verbally at the Annual General Meeting. If the number of Candidates proposed is the same as the number of vacancies the Candidate(s) shall be declared to be duly elected. If the number of Candidates is in excess of the number of vacancies, a ballot of the Members present at the Annual General Meeting shall be made. In this ballot each member shall be entitled to a number of votes corresponding to the number of vacancies but shall only be allowed to record one vote for any Candidate.
5. An Honorary Auditor shall be elected annually, but shall not be a member of the Committee.
6. Conference representatives shall be elected in accordance with the rules of the SCOTTISH BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION to represent this Association at the Meetings of that body.

7. MEETINGS. At all Meetings Standing Orders shall be observed. The Annual General Meeting shall be held within two months of the thirty-first of December, the end of the financial year. The order of business shall be:

a. Constitution of Meeting.

b. Intimations, including apologies for absence.

c. Reading and consideration of Minutes.

d. Business arising from Minutes.

e. Secretary's Report.

f. Treasurer's Report, in which the Treasurer shall submit audited accounts for the preceding financial year.

g. Election of Officers, Auditor and Committee.

h. Any other competent business.

8. A Special General Meeting shall be called by the Secretary within three weeks of the receipt of a written requisition signed by ten members. The Meeting shall be called at not less than one week's notice, which shall specify the whole business to be brought before the Meeting.

9. Alteration of the Constitution or Rules shall require a majority of two-thirds of the members present and voting, at a General Meeting, the notice calling which shall have intimated the proposed alterations.

10. a. The Association may be dissolved by at least two-thirds majority of members casting their votes at a Special General meeting for which the relevant period of notice had been given stating the terms of the proposal to dissolve.

b. Any assets remaining after the settlement of such debts and liabilities shall be given to such other recognised charitable organisation or organisations that have objects similar to those of the Association as the executive committee may determine.

Constitution originally drawn up 23 January 1974, modified 10 January 2011.