

Society of Dorset Men

Rule changes proposed as a result of the Annual General Meeting – 8 October 2023

At last year's AGM it was agreed that some Rules needed to be clarified. These are Rules 5(iii) (Mode of Election and Termination of Membership), 7(i) (Officers) and 8(i) Committee

The present Rules read as follows: -

- 5 (iii) The Committee may also at any time in their discretion terminate the membership of any person without furnishing reasons for their action, in which event a pro rata proportion of the subscription will be returned.
7. (i) The Officers of the Society shall be:-
Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Membership Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Year Book Editor, Honorary Newsletter Editor and they together with the President and Deputy Presidents, if desired, shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting each year.
8. (i) The Society shall be governed by a Committee consisting of the Officers and additional Committee Members elected by the Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall not exceed ten members in total. Five Members shall form a quorum.

Rule 5(iii)

The present wording implies that there could be NO reason for termination of membership. This could be simply remedied by insertion of the word 'the' so that it reads 'without furnishing **the** reasons . . . '.

Furthermore, the rule allows for no right of appeal against the ruling. The Society's committee feels such a right should exist and should therefore be added to the Rule, including who should hear the appeal.

Proposed additional wording – 'Any member so expelled has the right to appeal within four weeks of being notified of expulsion, such appeal to be heard by a panel consisting of the President (or Deputy President) and two other members not being committee members'.

Rule 7(i)

The President and Deputy Presidents are not required to be re-elected each year at the AGM, but the election of a New President or Deputy President should be by the AGM. Also, the President and DPs have no vote in the governance of the Society (see rule 8(i)), but nowhere do the rules say so.

Proposed rewording: –

7. (i) The Officers of the Society shall be:-
Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Membership Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Year Book Editor, Honorary Newsletter Editor and they shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting each year. Also, if required, a new President or Deputy President shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

Rule 8 (i)

The President and Deputy Presidents are not Officers of the Society and have no vote under Rule 8(i). To clarify this a suggested rewording of Rule 8(i) is proposed as follows: -

8. (i) The Society shall be governed by a Committee consisting of the Officers (excluding the President and Deputy Presidents) and additional Committee Members elected by the Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall not exceed ten members in total. Five Members shall form a quorum.

END

Society of Dorset Men

Rule changes proposed as a result of the Special General Meeting 4 August 2024

Proposed amendments to the Rules of the Society following the outcome of the SGM of 4 August 2024.

Rule 2 needs the simple substitution of the word 'men' by 'people'.

OBJECTS

2. The objects of the Society shall be:-

To make and renew personal friendships and associations, to promote good fellowship among Dorset men (people) wherever they may reside, to foster love of County and pride in its history and traditions and to assist by every means in its power, organisations of Dorset and individuals, who may stand in need of the influence and help of the Society.

The Committee also proposes that a new category of 'Joint membership' for partners registered at the same address is introduced. For a discounted subscription of £25.00 (upgrade £10.00 p.a.) both would have the full membership rights, but only one would receive communications – Year Book, Newsletters, etc. A Joint Life Membership would be £335.00 (upgrade £135.00)

These new categories need to be added to Rule 6 as follows:-

SUBSCRIPTIONS

6. The Subscriptions to the Society shall be (these subscriptions will apply whether the Member is residing in the UK or overseas):-

- (a) Life Member - one payment - £200.00.
- (b) Joint Life Members (partners registered at the same address) - one payment - £335.00 (if either partner dies the life membership remains with the surviving partner).
- (c) Members per annum (payable 1st October) - £15.00.
- (d) Joint Members (partners registered at the same address) per annum (payable 1st October) - £25.00

END