

CONSTITUTION

County Dublin Beekeepers' Association

1. The Association shall be known as the COUNTY DUBLIN BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION (the Association).
2. The objects of the Association shall be to encourage Beekeeping in every way possible.
3. Membership of the Association shall be open to all persons interested in beekeeping. An application for membership shall be proposed and seconded by members of the Association. Such application shall be considered by the Committee which shall have the right to refuse the same without stating any reason. The Members, at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting, shall have power to confer honorary membership of the Association, on any person whom they deem deserving of such distinction. The Members shall also have the power to confer life membership of the Association on any person at such a fee as they shall from time to time specify.
4. The membership subscription (being from 1st January to 31st December) shall be determined or modified only by vote at a Committee Meeting of the Association.
5. The Association shall be managed by a Committee comprising a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Librarian, Editor, Honey Show Secretary, and three other members.
6. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Association and he/she shall have a casting vote in addition to his/her ordinary vote if voting is equal in any division. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall take the chair and have the same powers as the Chairperson.
7. The Secretary shall ensure that the duties and tasks decided upon at Committee Meetings and General Meetings are carried out, and shall keep minutes of all such meetings.
8. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all the monies received and disbursed on behalf of the Association and for the keeping of records and accounts of all assets of the Association.
9. The Membership Secretary shall maintain a current list of members and account to the Treasurer for all monies received.
10. The Librarian shall maintain a library for the benefit of members.
11. The Editor shall publish a regular newsletter for members.
12. The Honey Show Secretary shall organise an annual honey show
13. The Committee shall be empowered to:
 - (a) Transact all business.
 - (b) Organise and hold meetings, outings, beginners' courses and other activities and functions.
 - (c) Appoint the appropriate numbers of delegates to FIBKA Congress.
 - (d) Appoint Sub-Committees for specific purposes, provided always that the Sub-Committees so appointed shall have power to add to their members by co-option.

The Chairperson and Secretary shall be ex-officio members of such Sub-Committees.

- (e) Provide for the use of members such equipment and on such terms as it considers appropriate.
 - (f) Determine the membership subscription.
14. No person shall be eligible for election to the Committee unless he/she has been a paid up member of the Association for at least twelve months prior to the election, or is an honorary member.
 15. The Committee shall meet at least four times in every year and so often as the business of the Association requires. Committee members (including officers) who are absent without reasonable cause for three consecutive Committee meetings shall ipso facto cease to be members of the Committee or to hold office. Any vacancy on the Committee (including that of an officer) shall be filled by co-option.
 16. Four shall constitute a quorum at Committee Meetings.
 17. Meetings of the Committee must be convened by the Chairperson. The Chairperson must convene a meeting if requested in writing by at least three members of the Committee.
 18. Nominations for elections to the Committee shall be in writing and shall be sent so as to reach the Secretary by 4 weeks before the AGM for inclusion in the Agenda in accordance with Clause 25. The outgoing Committee shall have the right to put forward nominations.
 19. For nominations that are contested, nominations must be proposed and seconded at a General Meeting before voting can proceed. The person making a nomination shall satisfy himself/herself that the person proposed is willing to act.
 20. In matters of extreme urgency, the Chairperson and Secretary are empowered to act jointly on behalf of the committee.
 21. At each Annual General Meeting after the coming into operation of these Rules, one of the outgoing members of the Committee shall become ineligible for re-election until the following Annual General Meeting.

The member so to become ineligible shall be he/she who has continuously served on the Committee for the longest time, but as between persons with the same length of service those to retire shall, unless they otherwise agree between themselves, be determined by lot.
 22. The Chairperson shall not be eligible for re-election to that office for one year after the third consecutive year in office.
 23. A retiring Chairperson is ex officio a member of the Committee for one year after he/she retires from office.
 24. An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held in each calendar year..
 25. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be as follows:—
 - (a) Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
 - (b) Chairperson's address.
 - (c) Officers' Reports.
 - (d) Election of Officers and other members of the Committee.

- (e) Appointment of Auditor.
 - (f) Appointment of Trustees in the event of a vacancy.
 - (g) Motions.
 - (h) Any other business.
26. The Secretary shall send the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting to all members at least fourteen days prior to the Meeting. Notices of motions for the Annual General Meeting shall be in writing and shall be sent so as to reach the Secretary by 4 weeks before the AGM.
 27. An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association shall be convened by the Chairperson, or by a decision of the Committee, or by request, in writing, signed by at least ten members of the Association. At least fourteen days' notice of such meeting shall be given to the members by the Secretary stating the nature of the business to be transacted.
 28. Twenty members, or one-fifth of the total membership (paid-up, life or honorary) of the Association, whichever is the lesser, shall constitute a quorum at General Meetings. Only persons whose names are on the current list of members may vote at General Meetings.
 29. An Auditor shall be appointed by a vote of the members at the A.G.M. to audit the accounts and such audited accounts shall be incorporated in the Treasurer's Report.
 30. Three Trustees shall be appointed by a vote of the members at an Annual General Meeting. Each Trustee shall hold office for one year. All the property of the Association shall be vested in the Trustees so appointed.
 31. A General Meeting shall have full power to decide any question that may arise, including any for which provision is not made in this Constitution or regarding the interpretation of the Rules, subject to it being covered by the Meeting agenda.
 32. Any addition or amendment to this Constitution shall be made by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting.

Accepted at Extraordinary General Meeting, 7th April 2014

John Killian, Chairperson
Liam McGarry, Hon. Secretary
Zoë Hayes, Hon. Treasurer