

## Proposed changes to the Rules of the Association

NB It is not proposed to change the name or aims of the Association.

It is proposed to amend the following rules (changes are highlighted in red):

### Existing Rule

#### *Membership: Rule 3*

Members shall belong to one of the following classes and shall be admitted in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) Ordinary members, who shall be practising teachers of Earth science or allied **sciences**, in schools, colleges or universities, or persons actively interested in Earth science education. Ordinary members may also be bodies, organisations or institutions concerned with Earth science education, who shall be entitled to send one voting representative to meetings and to receive the publications of the Association.
- (b) Student members, who shall be persons preparing to become teachers of Earth science or **allied sciences** and who shall have the same privileges as Ordinary members, except the powers of voting and nominations to Council.
- (c) **Retired members, who shall be retired teachers of geology, Earth science or allied sciences**, and who shall have the same privileges as Ordinary members, including the powers of voting and nomination to Council.
- (d) Honorary Life members, who shall be nominated by Council from persons distinguished for their services to the Association or its aim, and shall be elected by a three-quarters voting majority in the Annual General Meeting, and shall have all the privileges of membership.

#### *Membership: Rule 5*

Members shall be entitled to attend and vote at **all meetings** and to receive all publications and circulars of the Association, except for the special provisions of Rule 3(b).

### Proposed Rule

Members shall belong to one of the following classes and shall be admitted in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) Ordinary members, who shall be practising teachers of Earth science or allied **subjects**, in schools, colleges or universities, or persons actively interested in Earth science education. Ordinary members may also be bodies, organisations or institutions concerned with Earth science education, who shall be entitled to send one voting representative to meetings and to receive the publications of the Association.
- (b) Student members, who shall be persons preparing to become teachers of Earth science or **allied subjects, or other students in higher or further education who are actively interested in Earth science education**, and who shall have the same privileges as Ordinary members, except the powers of voting and nominations to Council.
- (c) **Senior members, who shall be at least 65 years of age**, and who shall have the same privileges as Ordinary members, including the powers of voting and nomination to Council.
- (d) Honorary Life members, who shall be nominated by Council from persons distinguished for their services to the Association or its aim, and shall be elected by a three-quarters voting majority in the Annual General Meeting, and shall have all the privileges of membership.

Members shall be entitled to attend and vote at **all General meetings** and to receive all publications and circulars of the Association, except for the special provisions of Rule 3(b).

*Subscriptions and Donations: Rule 8*

Members shall pay such subscriptions as may from time to time be prescribed by Council with the agreement of **the Annual General Meeting**. Student members and **Retired** members shall pay half the Ordinary member's annual subscription.

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*Subscriptions and Donations: Rule 11*

Any member whose subscription is in arrears shall **not receive more than two quarterly issues of the magazine Teaching Earth Sciences** and any member who is one year in arrears may be removed from the Association.

Any member whose subscription is in arrears shall **be removed from the distribution lists for the Association's publications after six months** and any member who is one year in arrears may be removed from the Association.

*Council: Rule 14*

The Business of the Association shall be conducted by the Council, which shall consist of the following Officers: the Chair, **the Chair Designate, the Retiring Chair**, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Membership Secretary, the Editor and up to three Education Co-ordinators.

The Business of the Association shall be conducted by the Council, which shall consist of the following Officers: the Chair, **the Chair Designate OR the Retiring Chair**, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Membership Secretary, the Editor and up to three Education Co-ordinators.

*Council: Rule 15*

Elections to Council shall be made at the Annual General Meeting. The Chair Designate shall be elected biennially and will succeed to the Chair in the following year. The Chair shall normally serve for two years before serving a final year as Retiring Chair. The Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Editor and up to three Education Co-ordinators shall each be elected for three years, and shall be eligible for immediate re-election. Officers of Council shall normally be the trustees of the charity as defined by **section 46 of the Charities Act 1960**.

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*Council: Rule 18*

Council may co-opt such members as and when circumstances arise and they shall normally **be the trustees of the charity as defined by section 46 of the Charities Act 1960**.

Council may co-opt such members as and when circumstances arise and they shall normally **become trustees of the charity as defined by section 177 of the Charities Act 2011. Co-opted members shall also have voting rights at Council meetings but shall not form part of the quorum**.

*Council: Rule 22*

The Secretary shall act for both the Association and Council and shall give due intimation of all meetings of the Association and shall record the proceedings of the **meetings in the Minute Books**, and conduct the general correspondence of the Association.

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*Council: Rule 23*

The Secretary shall also be responsible for the arrangements for, and the conduct of, all meetings of the Association. **S/he shall be assisted in the organisation of the Annual Course and Conference by a local Secretary appointed annually by Council.**

The Secretary shall also be responsible for the arrangements for, and the conduct of, all meetings of the Association. **Council may agree to delegate arrangements for the organisation of the Annual Course and Conference.**

*Council: Rule 24*

The Treasurer shall receive and pay, as authorised by Council, or by any General or Special Meeting of the Association, all monies of the Association. The Membership Secretary may be delegated to receive subscriptions on behalf of the Treasurer and shall also be responsible for maintaining the membership database. The Treasurer shall keep a regular account of income and expenditure, and this account shall be balanced as on 31<sup>st</sup> March of each year, **audited by two members who shall not be members of Council at the time**, and submitted to the Annual General Meeting in September.

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*Meetings: Rule 29*

[This is a new rule. The existing rules 29 to 32 are renumbered 30 to 33]

At General Meetings, resolutions will be decided by a simple majority of members on a show of hands, except where Rule 31 applies.

*The Rules: Rule 31 [formerly Rule 30]*

No rule shall be altered, deleted, or added **except by a majority of votes** of the members present and voting at an Extraordinary General Meeting convened for that purpose, provided that no alteration shall be made to these Rules which would have the effect of causing the Association to cease to be a charity in law.

No rule shall be altered, deleted, or added **except by a two-thirds majority of votes** of the members present and voting at an Extraordinary General Meeting convened for that purpose, provided that no alteration shall be made to these Rules which would have the effect of causing the Association to cease to be a charity in law.

*Conflicts of interests and conflicts of loyalties*

[new rule]

A Trustee of the Association must:

- (a) declare the nature and extent of any interest, direct or indirect, which he or she has in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the Association or in any transaction or arrangement entered into by the Association which has not been previously declared; and
- (b) absent himself or herself from any discussions of the Association Trustees in which it is possible that a conflict will arise between his or her duty to act solely in the interests of the charity and any personal interest (including but not limited to any personal financial interest).

Any Trustee absenting himself or herself from any discussions in accordance with this clause must not vote or be counted as part of the quorum in any decision of the Trustees on the matter.

*Participation in meetings by video and telephone*

[new rule]

Any Trustee of the Association shall be able to participate in meetings of the Trustees by telephone or video conference provided that:

- (a) he or she has given notice of his or her intention to do so, detailing the appropriate contact details; and
- (b) the Trustees have access to the appropriate equipment.

If, after all reasonable efforts, it does not prove possible for the Trustee to participate by telephone or video conference the meeting may still proceed with its business provided it is otherwise quorate.