

**FINGAL NORTH DUBLIN
BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

(Established 1977)

CONSTITUTION

June 2000

CONSTITUTION OF FINGAL NORTH DUBLIN BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Name

1. The Association shall be known as the Fingal North Dublin Beekeepers' Association.

Objectives

2. The objectives of the Association shall be to encourage beekeeping in every way possible and mutual assistance among its members.

Affiliation

3. The Association shall be affiliated with the Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations.

Membership and Subscriptions

4. Membership of the Association shall be open to all persons interested in beekeeping. The admission to membership is subject to approval by the Committee. Membership can be withdrawn by a vote of two thirds of members present and voting at a General Meeting of the Association.
5. The Association may confer Honorary Life Membership on a person, who is deemed worthy of such distinction, through election at the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting and such person shall also rank as a fully paid up member of the Association.
6. The annual membership subscription shall be approved at the Annual General Meeting and shall be payable with effect from 1st November of that year, which will be the start of the membership year. Only paid up Members of the Association shall be eligible to vote at General Meetings.

Organisation

7. The Association shall be managed by a Committee comprising of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and six other members. Officers and Committee Members may hold other positions within the Association. The Committee shall meet as often as the affairs of the Association require and shall meet at least three times during their term of office.
8. The Chairperson, or in his/her absence the Vice-Chairperson, shall preside at General Meetings and Committee/Sub-Committee Meetings and shall have a casting vote in addition to his/her normal vote, where voting on a proposal is equal.
9. The Honorary Secretary shall carry out the duties and tasks decided upon at Committee Meetings and General Meetings and shall keep minutes of all such meetings.

10. The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies received and disbursed on behalf of the Association and for keeping records and accounts in respect thereof including assets of the Association.

Committee

11. The Committee shall be empowered to :
- a. Transact all routine business.
 - b. Organise and hold meetings, outings, courses, lectures and all other activities and functions suitable for the furtherance of the objectives of the Association.
 - c. Appoint the appropriate number of delegates to the Congress of the Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations.
 - d. Appoint Sub-Committees for specific purposes, such Sub-Committees having powers to add to their number by co-option. The Chairperson and Honorary Secretary shall be ex-officio members of such Sub-Committees.
 - e. Provide for the use by members such equipment as the Association holds for use by the members and on such terms as it considers appropriate.
12. A person shall become eligible for election to the Committee when he/she has been a fully paid up member of the Association for at least twelve months prior to the election.
13. Five members shall constitute a quorum at Committee Meetings.

Chairperson

14. The Chairperson shall hold office for two consecutive years unless he/she decides to retire from office at an earlier date, and shall not be eligible for re-election to that office for two years. A person shall become eligible for election as Chairperson when he/she has been a fully paid up member of the Association for at least three years prior to the election.

Elections/Co-option

15. A request for nominations for positions as Officers, Committee, Auditors (and other positions as appropriate), which will be voted on at the A.G.M., shall be issued by the Honorary Secretary prior to the September Ordinary General Meeting. Nominations, proposed and seconded, must be received by the Honorary Secretary in writing not later than two weeks before the A.G.M. Where more than one nomination for any office or more nominations than the number of members to be elected to the Committee are received, a secret ballot shall be held. In the event of insufficient nominations being received for any positions, nominations for these outstanding positions will be taken at the A.G.M.
16. Committee members, including Officers, who are absent without reasonable cause for three consecutive Committee Meetings shall automatically 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.

General Meetings

17. In addition to an Annual General Meeting, the Association shall hold Ordinary General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings where the business of the Association so requires.

18. Notice of all General Meetings shall be given to all members of the Association.
19. Twelve members or one third of membership, whichever is the lesser, shall constitute a quorum at General Meetings.
20. The Annual General Meeting shall be held each year on the first Thursday in October and shall carry out the following business in the order laid down:
- a. Minutes of the last A.G.M.
 - b. Chairperson's address
 - c. Officers' reports
 - d. Other reports
 - e. Election of Officers
 - f. Election of Committee
 - g. Appointment of Auditors
 - h. Appointment of other positions as appropriate
 - i. Motions
 - j. Any other business
21. An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association shall be convened by the Chairperson or by a decision of the Committee or by a request in writing signed by at least six members of the Association. At least seven days written notice of such meetings shall be given by the Honorary Secretary to all members of the Association stating the nature of the business to be transacted.

Auditors

22. Two Auditors shall be appointed by a vote of the members at the A.G.M. to audit the accounts and such audit shall be incorporated in the Honorary Treasurer's report.

Interpretation

23. A General Meeting or a Committee Meeting shall have full power to decide any questions that may arise, including any for which provision is not made in this Constitution, or regarding interpretation of the rules therein.
Decisions under this clause may require subsequent action under clause 24 below.

Additions/Amendments

24. No addition or amendment to this Constitution shall have any effect unless ratified by a two thirds majority of the members present and voting at an Extraordinary General Meeting convened for that purpose.

Adopted at Extraordinary General Meeting held on 22nd June 2000.

Michael Kelly - Vice-Chairperson

John McMullan - Honorary Secretary

Ray Wilson - Honorary Treasurer