
CONSTITUTION
AND
RULES

of

**The New Zealand
Danish Society**
(Incorporated)



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of
THE NEW ZEALAND DANISH SOCIETY
(Incorporated)

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NAME

1. The name of the Society shall be "The New Zealand Danish Society (Incorporated)."

OBJECTS

2. The objects of the Society are:
- (a) To promote and encourage commercial relations between New Zealand and Denmark.
 - (b) To promote and encourage friendly and cultural relations between New Zealand and Denmark.
 - (c) To welcome and assist where possible all Danes settling in or visiting New Zealand.
 - (d) To co-operate with and through the Danish Consulate-General or other representative of the Danish Government in New Zealand in encouraging the immigration of Danes into New Zealand.
 - (e) Such further objects as the members shall in general meeting decide.

CONSTITUTION

3. The Society shall consist of ordinary members and honorary members.

MEMBERSHIP

4. (a) The power to elect members shall be vested in the committees of the respective centres of the Society.
- (b) All persons of Danish nationality or descent over the age of 18 years living in New Zealand and their wives and husbands who in writing declare themselves in agreement with the objects of the Society shall be eligible for membership as ordinary members.
- (c) Every candidate for membership as an ordinary member shall be nominated in the manner and on the form prescribed by the Council and shall be proposed by one and seconded by another financial member of the Society and may be elected at any duly convened meeting of a centre committee by the votes of two-thirds of the members present and voting at such meeting.
- (d) The secretary of the committee electing a member shall forthwith notify him of his election to membership and upon payment of the first subscription he shall become a member of the Society.
- (e) Each centre committee shall have power by a unanimous vote to elect honorary members of the Society. Honorary members shall pay no membership subscriptions. They shall be entitled to all the privileges of ordinary members of the Society but unless in any individual case so empowered by the Council shall not be entitled to vote upon any question affecting the finances of the Society and shall not be qualified to hold any office as member of any committee or otherwise.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

5. The annual membership subscription shall be such sum as each centre committee shall decide for its members.

6. Any member whose subscription is twelve months in arrear shall be deemed to have forfeited his or her claim to membership. Such member's name may be removed from the Register of Members by decision of the centre committee of the centre of which he is a member.

7. Each centre committee shall pay to the Council a **capitation** fee of one shilling for each financial member per annum to defray the expenses of the Council.

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

8. Persons shall cease to be members:
 - (a) By voluntary resignation in writing.
 - (b) The committee of the centre of which such person is a member may expel him or her from membership if it is of opinion that such member has wilfully disobeyed any of the rules of the Society or is guilty of any conduct rendering him or her unfit to remain a member of the Society.

CENTRES

9. A centre of the Society may be constituted in any locality by not less than ten members and with the approval of the Council.

10. Each centre shall subject to these rules have full control of its own domestic concerns.

OFFICERS

11. There shall be a president and two vice-presidents, a secretary and treasurer and a committee consisting of ten members exclusive of ex-officio members in each centre. The president and vice-presidents and the secretary and treasurer shall be members of the committee ex officio.

COUNCIL

12. There shall be a Council consisting of one representative appointed by each centre committee. The representative nominated by a centre committee need not be a member of the centre which he is appointed to represent. The Council shall elect its own chairman and secretary. It shall be the function of the Council to represent the Society in connection with all matters where concerted action by the Society on a body is desirable.

MEETINGS

13. General meetings of centre meetings shall be called by seven days' written notice to each member. The annual general meeting of each centre committee shall be held in March of each year or as close thereto as practicable, and the business to be conducted at such meeting shall be:

- (a) The receipt and consideration of the report of the centre committee for the past year and the treasurer's financial statement.
- (b) The election of officers for the ensuing year.
- (c) Any special business introduced by notice of motion of which written notice shall have been given to the secretary at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.
- (d) Any other general business.

14. An extraordinary general meeting may be called at any time on a requisition signed by not less than ten members delivered to the secretary setting out the object of such meeting.

15. Ten members appearing personally or by proxy shall form a quorum at general meetings and five members at the meetings of the centre committees of whom three shall be personally present in which case two or more may be represented by a proxy. All proxies shall be in writing attested by a witness and delivered to the secretary before the commencement of the meeting.

16. All voting shall be by show of hands unless a ballot is demanded in which case voting shall be by secret ballot.

17. All meetings shall be presided over by the president or in his absence by a vice-president appointed at the meeting to preside, who shall in all respects represent the president.

18. All meetings shall be conducted in the English language, but the Danish language may be used by members after the close of meetings and at social functions.

COMMITTEES

19. Each centre committee shall hold office until its successor shall have been elected and shall meet at least once a month at such times and places as it may determine.

20. A committee may appoint any member of the Society to fill any vacancy that may occur during its period of office.

21. The president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer shall be members of the committee ex officio.

FUNDS

22. Each centre committee shall have charge and control of its own funds. The funds of each centre committee shall be in the custody of the treasurer and all cheques and other documents shall be signed by the president and the secretary and/or such other member as may from time to time be appointed by the centre committee. All moneys shall be lodged forthwith in the banking account of the centre.

COMMON SEAL

23. The Common Seal of the Society shall be in the custody of the secretary of the Council who shall affix the same to documents on the authority of a motion duly passed by the council and in the presence of the chairman of the Council.

REGISTERED OFFICE

24. The Registered Office of the Society shall be at Wellington or such other place in New Zealand as the Council shall from time to time decide. The notice of any change shall be given forthwith to the Registrar and to all members.

ALTERATION OF RULES

25. The rules of the Society shall be altered by resolution of the Council which resolution shall be confirmed by a majority of members present and voting at the Annual General Meeting of each centre.

WINDING UP AND DISSOLUTION

26. In the event of the winding-up of the Society or of any centre thereof the funds of the Society or of such centre shall be disposed of as decided upon by the Council or the committee of the centre.

AUDIT

27. The accounts of each centre shall be audited annually by a qualified accountant and submitted to the annual meeting of such centre. The only charges upon the funds of the centres of the Society shall be the travelling expenses of the president and secretary or their representative if necessary, and of printing, stationery, postage and telegrams and such other payments as the centre committees shall from time to time decide.

DIFFERENCES AND DISPUTES

28. In the event of any difference of opinion as to the interpretation of any rule or matter arising thereout the same shall be referred to the Council whose decision shall be binding except in so far as it shall be in conflict with the law of New Zealand.

GENERAL

29. No member of any centre committee or other person shall take individual action with regard to the affairs of the Society without proper authority.



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