

16 / 09 / 97

**CONSTITUTION for REDLANDS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY**

**CONSTITUTION (15 /09 / 97)**

1. THE NAME.

The name of the Society shall be "Redlands Astronomical Society", referred to in this Constitution as the Society.

2. OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

To promote interest in, and encourage appreciation of the science of Astronomy in all its varied facets. To bring together persons of similar interests for the purpose of exchange of information and discussion.

To hold meetings, at least 10 annually with lectures and sightings as appropriate to the study of Astronomy

3. MEMBERSHIP

A. Any person shall be eligible to apply for ordinary membership of the Society.

B. Every applicant shall be proposed and seconded by two financial members of the Society.

C. Application for membership shall be made in writing signed by the applicant, proposed and seconded, and shall be on such form as may be from time to time prescribed by the Management committee.

D. The number of ordinary members at any one time shall be limited to 100.

4. MEMBERSHIP FEES

A. Shall be such as the members shall from time to time determine at any General meeting of the Society.

B. The membership fees shall be payable at such time and in such manner as the Management committee shall from time to time determine.

5. ADMISSTON OF MEMBERS

A. At its next meeting after the receipt of \*re application and the membership fee, the Management committee shall consider the application.

B. Any applicant who receives a majority of votes of the Management committee present at the meeting shall be accepted as a member.

C. Upon the acceptance or rejection of the applicant, the Secretary shall forthwith give the applicant notice in writing of such acceptance or rejection.

## 6. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

A. A member may at any time resign from the Society by giving notice in writing to the Secretary.

B.If a member:-

(I) is convicted of an indictable offence - or : -

(II) Fails to comply with any of the provisions of these Rules - or : -

(III) Has membership fees in arrears for a period of two (2) months or more-or:-

(IV) Conducts herself / himself in a manner considered to be injurious or prejudicial to the character or interests of the society, the Management committee shall consider whether the member's membership shall be terminated.

C. The member concerned shall be given a full and fair opportunity of presenting her / his case, and if the Management committee resolves to terminate her / his membership it shall instruct the Secretary to advise the member in writing accordingly.

## 7. APPEAL AGAINST TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

There shall be no right of appeal against termination of membership.

## 8. REGISTER OF MEMBERS.

The Management committee shall cause a Register to be kept in which shall be entered the names and residential addresses of all members, and the dates of their admission.

## 9. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

A. The Annual General Meeting shall be held within three months of the close of the financial Year.

B. The business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting shall be:-

(I) The receiving of the Auditor's reports and the statements of income and expenditure and assets and liabilities for the preceding year.

(II) The receiving of the Auditor's report upon the books and accounts for the preceding financial year.

(III) The election of members of the Management committee.

(IV) The appointment of the Auditor.

C. All members of the Management committee shall retire from office at the A.G.M. - but shall be eligible upon nomination for re-election.

D. Only financial members have the right to vote for the election of the Management committee for the ensuing year, or other matters associated therewith.

E. The minutes of any A.G.M. shall be signed by the presiding chairperson of that meeting.

10. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Secretary shall convene a Special General Meeting:-

A. When directed to do so by the Management Committee - or:-

B. On the requisition in writing signed by not less than one third (1/3) of the members, all of whom must be financial members. Such requisition shall clearly state the reasons why such special general meeting is being convened, and the nature of the business to be transacted thereat. Only the business on requisition can be discussed at any Special General Meeting so convened.

11. GENERAL MEETING.

A. Notice of a general meeting shall be posted to members not less than fourteen

(14) clear days prior to the day appointed for such meeting

B. The President shall preside as chairperson, or if not present a Vice President shall be the chairperson, or if a Vice President is unwilling to act, then the members present shall elect one of their number to be chairperson of the meeting.

C. All present may participate in discussion, but only financial members shall be entitled to vote.

D. In the case of an equality of votes, the chairperson shall have a second or casting vote.

E. The Secretary shall cause full and accurate minutes of all questions, matters, resolutions and other proceedings of every management committee meeting and general meeting to be entered in a book, to be open for inspection at all reasonable times by any financial member who previously applies to the Secretary for that inspection.

F. The minutes of every general meeting shall be signed by the chairperson of the meeting, or the chairperson of the next meeting, verifying their accuracy.

12. QUORUMS.

A. The Quorum for the Management Committee meetings shall be three members.

B. The Quorum for general meeting shall be one more than twice the number of members on the Management Committee, including a minimum of three members of the Management Committee.

### 13. THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

A. The Management Committee of the Society shall consist of a President Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and not more than five (5) members elected by the ordinary members of the Society at any general meeting and can only be elected annually to a total of three (3) consecutive years in office. in the event of an inability to elect a full Management Committee at an Annual General Meeting any office bearer on the completion of a three (3) year consecutive term may have that term extended to further period of not more than twelve (12) months.

B. Annual retirement of the Management Committee shall occur at each Annual General Meeting in accordance with Article 9, clause C.

C. Nomination for election of financial members to the Management Committee shall take place in the following manner:-

(I) Any two (2) financial members of the Society shall be at liberty to nominate any other financial member to serve as an officer or other member of the Management Committee.

(II) The nomination, which shall be in writing and signed by the member and his proposer and seconder shall be lodged with the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days before the annual General Meeting at which the election is to take place.

(III) Any member of the Management Committee may resign from office at any time by notice in writing to the Secretary to be effective at the time such notice is received by the Secretary-

(IV) A vacancy in the Management Committee may be filled by election at the next general meeting

(V) The Management Committee shall have the general control and management of the administration of the affairs, property and funds of the Society.

(VI) The Management Committee shall have authority to interpret the meaning of these rules and any matter relating to the Society on which these rules are silent

(VII) The Management Committee shall provide for the safe custody of books and documents of the Society.

(VIII) The Management Committee may delegate any of its powers to a sub-committee consisting of such financial members of the Society as it thinks fit. Any sub-committee so formed shall in the exercise of the powers so delegated conform to any regulations that may be imposed upon it by the Management Committee.

(IX) Management Committee meetings shall be ten (10) annually and may coincide with the Society's current monthly meetings.

14. BY-LAWS.

The Management Committee may from time to time make, amend or repeal by-laws, not inconsistent with these rules, for the internal management of the Society, and, any by-law may be set aside by a general meeting of members.

15. COMMON SEAL OF THE SOCIETY.

A. The Management Committee shall provide for a common seal and its safe custody.

B. The common seal shall only be used with the authority of the Management Committee, and every instrument to which the seal is affixed shall be signed by a member of the Management Committee, and shall be countersigned by the Secretary or a second member of the Management Committee.

16. FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS.

A. The funds of the Society shall be kept in the name of the Society in a financial institution decided by the Management Committee.

B. Proper books and accounts shall be kept and maintained either in writing or printed form, showing correctly the financial affairs of the Society.

C. The financial year. shall end on the 31st of March annually.

D. All amounts of twenty dollars (\$20.00) or over shall be paid by cheque, signed by any two (2) of the President, Secretary, Treasurer or any other member authorised from time to time by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be crossed "Not Negotiable".

E. As soon as practicable after the end of each financial year the Treasurer shall cause to be prepared a statement containing the particulars of income and expenditure for the financial year, and the assets and liabilities at the end of that year.

F. All such statements shall be examined by the auditor who shall present a report on such audit to the Secretary.

G. Income and Property:- The assets and income of the Society, whencesoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set out herein, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend bonus or otherwise how so ever by way of profit to or amongst members of the Society except as bonafide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the Society.

## 17. DISSOLUTION.

If the Society shall be wound up in accordance with the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981-1990, and there remains, after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall NOT be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society, but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Society, and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Society under or by virtue of Rule 16(G), such institution or institutions to be determined by members of the Society.