

CONSTITUTION OF THE MASTERTON TRAMPING CLUB INCORPORATED

Effective 1 April 1994

1. NAME

The name of the Club shall be “Masterton Tramping Club Incorporated”

2. INTERPRETATION

In the wording of this constitution the masculine form shall be susceptible also of a feminine interpretation; the word “club” shall mean “Masterton Tramping Club Incorporated”; “committee” unless qualified to give a different meaning, shall mean “General Committee” as defined in Section 17; “member” unless qualified to give a different meaning, shall mean “member of the club”.

3. OBJECTS

- (a) To encourage and facilitate walking, climbing, mountaineering and ski-ing; but always subject to (c) and (d)
- (b) To encourage and facilitate such field interests as accord with object (a), such as botany, photography etc, but always subject to (c) and (d)
- (c) To preserve and protect the native flora and the natural scenic properties of the bush and the country generally.
- (d) To preserve and protect the native fauna, except for such shooting of native game as may be permitted by the Government from time to time, such shooting to be subject to the rules of the Club.
- (e) To endeavour to achieve, and maintain and to co-operate in the preservation of mountain and forest areas as a natural, unspoiled reserve and to actively lobby any appropriate authority to promote the views of the club in pursuance of this object.
- (f) To encourage and facilitate social intercourse between members.
- (g) To build and maintain huts and resorts and to cut tracks; and to co-operate with other Clubs and to invest funds, and to do such other acts as may reasonably accord with the above objects, but always subject to (c) and (d)

4. BADGE

The Club badge shall be as illustrated (See Appendix 1)

5. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) All current financial members of the Club shall be deemed to have been elected.
- (b) Persons of or over the age of 16 years interested in the objects of the Club shall be eligible for membership on the recommendation in writing of one or two members as the General Committee may determine and may be elected by a two thirds majority of those present and voting at a meeting of the committee; provided that the committee may require such proof or tests of walking, mountaineering, shooting, or ski-ing interests or ability as it may think fit. Persons under the age of 16 years shall be eligible for Junior Membership of the Club and may be elected in the manner prescribed.
- (c) Before application to join the club can be made the prospective member/s must have completed 2-3 trips with the club, so that suitability can be assessed, This requirement can be altered at the discretion of the committee.

- (d) Membership shall be subject to the clauses relating to payment of subscriptions and may be qualified by the provisions of Section 8.
- (e) Notice shall be given or sent within thirty days advising each new member of his election.
- (f) Honorary Member: Any person may be elected at an Annual General Meeting, as an Honorary member, on the recommendation of the committee

6. LIFE MEMBERSHIP

On a motion of which previous notice has been given to the committee or on the committees recommendation, any person who has rendered special service to the Club or the furtherance of its objects may be elected to life membership by two thirds of those present and voting at a general meeting of the club. Life membership shall have full privileges but shall be exempt from payment of the subscription.

7. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- (a) Subscriptions may from time to time be determined at a General Meeting. Subscriptions shall include, but not be limited to, Ordinary membership. Junior membership and Family membership.
- (b) The due date for payment of the subscription in the case of a new member shall be the date upon which the notice is sent advising him of his election. The date in other cases shall be the first day of the financial year.
- (c) The Committee may at its discretion require advance payment of subscriptions with **applications for membership, subject to such later** refund or rebate as may be necessary due to delay or failure to elect.
- (d) The Committee may remit all or part of the subscription in the case of hardship, in the case of outstanding service to the club, in the case of absence from New Zealand for a period of more than six months or in the case of members who join part way through a financial year. Members whose subscriptions are remitted for any of these reasons shall be deemed to be financial members.

8. FINANCIAL AND UNFINANCIAL MEMBERS

- (a) New members who subscriptions are paid and other members whose subscriptions are not more than three months overdue, shall be deemed to be financial members; except as provided in Section 6 and Section 7(d) all other members shall be deemed to be un financial members.
- (b) Un financial members may not vote at a general meeting except by the consent of the majority of the financial members present.
- (c) The Committee may at its discretion exercise any of the following powers in respect to un financial members . it may exclude such members from acting on the committee or any subcommittees; it may withhold notices or publications; it may require financial members to be given preference on trips; it may terminate the membership of un financial members.

9. PROFITS AND LEVIES ON TRIPS

- (a) The Committee shall have power to authorise levies on trips as may be reasonable, to recompense the Club or members for the use of vehicles and/or equipment on those trips.

10. RESIGNATION

Any member may resign his membership by giving notice to the Secretary in writing to that effect

11. EXPULSION

The Committee may expel any member disobeying the rules of the club, or seriously disregarding the constitution, or guilty in its opinion of the gross misconduct; provided that before expelling him the committee shall give him an opportunity to appear before it and make such explanation as he may reasonable wish to in his own defence. Any member expelled by the Committee has a right of appeal to a club meeting.

12. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP IF UNFINANCIAL

As provided in Section 8(c) the committee may terminate the membership of any un financial member. It may do so without notice to the member.

13. MANAGEMENT

Subject to anything elsewhere laid down in this constitution or to any instructions from a general meeting, the entire management of the club and its property, including the control and investment of funds, shall rest in the hands of the General Committee, except that other committees or subcommittees shall have control in their own particular fields, subject to instructions from the General Committee. The committee shall, from time to time appoint three trustees, one of whom shall be the Treasurer, to operate bank accounts on behalf of the Club.

14. RIGHTS OF RESTRICTION

The General Committee, or other committee or subcommittees or appointed officers subject to instructions from the General Committee, may limit the privileges of certain members of classes of members in reasonable ways such as the exclusion from certain trips of those considered unfit, exclusions from clubroom for a period after commencement of a function hiring out of equipment only to those who need it or will look after it, or financial members and so on.

15. GENERAL COMMITTEE

- (a) The General Committee shall consist of a President, one Vice President, Club Captain, Secretary, Treasurer and such other special officers and/or further committee members as may be elected at a general meeting or later appointed by the committee itself. One member may hold two or more offices.
- (b) The number of special officers and committee members elected at a general meeting shall not exceed 8 but the committee shall have the power to add up to three more.
- (c) The committee may appoint any member to fill any vacancy until the next general meeting

16. SUBCOMMITTEES

- (a) Subcommittees may be established by the General Committee. Any Club members may be appointed to these committees whether members of the General Committee or not.
- (b) No appointments by the convenors shall be valid unless approved by the General Committee.
- (c) The committee may reform any subcommittee except that if the convener of such committee is an officer elected at a general meeting he will cease to be the convener only by his resignation from the post or as determined by a general meeting.

17. **MEETINGS OF GENERAL COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the general committee may be called at any time by the President or Secretary and shall be called within fourteen days of the receipt of a requisition signed by two members of the committee. There shall be held not less than nine committee meetings in each year.

18. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- (a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held on some day in the date to be decided by the committee. The business shall be the election of officers and such other business as may properly be put before the meeting.
- (b) Nomination for office shall, with consent of nominee, be accepted at an Annual General Meeting.
- (c) No person shall be nominated unless he has been duly elected a member of the club.
- (d) Other club business except motions as provided in Section 24 shall be subject to such notice of motion as the committee may require.

19. **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

The Committee may at any time convene an extraordinary general meeting and shall do so within one calendar month of a request to the Secretary in writing, specifying the proposed business and signed by six financial members.

20. **NOTICE OF MEETINGS**

- (a) Notice of any meeting of the committee shall be given to each member of the committee at least forty-eight hours beforehand. Notice of general meeting shall be given to all members of the club at least seven days beforehand.
- (b) "Given" for this purpose shall mean put in the post or conveyed verbally so that in the ordinary course of events delivery of the notice should be received at the appointed time.

21. **QUORUM**

- (a) The quorum at a meeting of the General Committee shall be 5 members
- (b) The quorum at a general meeting shall be 12 members or 5% of the membership, whichever is smaller, with a minimum of 4.

22. **METHOD OF VOTING**

- (a) The method of voting at a general meeting and committee meetings shall in all cases be at the discretion of the Chairman, except as otherwise decided by a majority of those present.
- (b) Except where otherwise laid down in this constitution any motion shall be deemed to be carried by a bare majority vote.

23. **CHAIRMAN AND RULING AGAINST THE CHAIR**

- (a) The President shall be chairman at all meetings if he is present. In his absence a vice president shall take his place. Any member may demand a vote which shall thereupon be taken against any ruling of the chairman. The decision of the meeting shall stand.
- (b) The chairman shall at all times have an ordinary and a casting vote.

24. ALTERATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution may be replaced, altered, or added to by resolution at a general meeting. Any motion or motions to repeal alter or add to the constitution shall be given to the Secretary in writing three weeks beforehand and published with notice of meeting.

25. DUTIES OF OFFICE BEARERS

The committee may require any office bearer of the club to carry out duties it deems appropriate but in any case those duties shall include the following:

- (a) President
 - (i) as in 23 (a)

- (b) Secretary
 - (i) shall ensure that minutes of all committee and club meetings are kept.
 - (ii) shall ensure inward correspondence is placed before the committee at the earliest opportunity and that outward correspondence is sent promptly.

- (c) Treasurer
 - (i) shall keep such records and books of account as may be required by the clubs auditor.
 - (ii) present, requested by the committee, a statement of the current financial status of the club.

- (d) Club Captain
 - (i) shall in consultation with the committee, or any subcommittee or any member ensure that a varied and interesting program of club activities, trips, guest speakers, training and meetings is prepared.
 - (ii) shall encourage and motivate members to support activities promoted by the club.-6-

- (e) Quartermaster
 - (i) shall maintain a record of equipment owned by the club.
 - (ii) shall facilitate the hire/loan of such equipment to financial members
 - (iii) ensure equipment is stored and maintained in an appropriate manner and promptly report any damage to the committee.

26. FINANCIAL YEAR AND STATEMENT

- (a) The financial year shall begin on the 1 st day of April in each year.
- (b) A statement of Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet together with an Annual Report shall be prepared and a copy of these documents shall be forwarded to each member with notice calling the Annual General Meeting.

27. DUTIES OF MEMBERS AND SOME PROVISIONS RE ATTENDANCE ON TRIPS

- (a) Dogs and guns may not be taken on club trips except with the permission of the Trip Leader who should consult the Club Captain in each case.
- (b) Gates must be left as found, unless there is good reason to believe the owner wishes the contrary.

- (c) Huts and private property must be respected.
- (d) Fires must always be left safe and must never be lit where likely to spread.
- (e) Subsections (c) and (d) of Section 3 must be observed at all times.
- (f) Leaders must have complete authority on trips subject only to the Club Captain or his appointed deputy.
- (g) Except where it is not reasonably possible or where considerable service is already being rendered to the Club, all members shall be expected to do their bit in the way of Clubroom duties, and duties at other club functions.

28. ADDRESS OF MEMBERS

Every member shall, on joining, supply the Secretary with his address, and shall give notice of later changes of address. All notices posted to the latest addresses obtained from members shall be considered as duly sent.

29. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The club shall not be responsible for acts of its members which may lead to death, disablement, or injury and/or damage to or loss of property either of members or others.

30. DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY OF WINDING UP

Upon winding up of the Club, its property and funds shall be disposed of as decided by a general meeting of members, which shall be convened (if not otherwise held) for that purpose, or failing any such resolution, the committee may act in the matter.

31. COMMON SEAL

The Common Seal of the Club shall be affixed to any document only by special resolution of the General Committee and shall be attested by the President and one Vice-President.

The Secretary shall have the custody of the Common Seal.