

**CORNISH ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES
RULES OF ASSOCIATION**

- 1.0 **NAME:** The name of the association shall be the Cornish Association of New South Wales.
- 2.0 **OBJECTS:** The objects of the association shall be: -
- 2.1 To promote fellowship and to foster goodwill among Cornish people in New South Wales and elsewhere.
 - 2.2 To stimulate interest in the history, antiquities, Celtic background, language, traditions and social conditions of Cornwall and to aid approved cultural and other movements, in and connected with Cornwall, working for Cornwall's good.
 - 2.3 To endeavour to arrange contacts between relatives and friends of Cornish people in both New South Wales and Cornwall, with other Cornish Associations, and with other Celtic groups in New South Wales.
 - 2.4 The identification and /or preservation, and promotion, of the heritage of Cornish people and their descendants in New South Wales and across the world.
 - 2.5 Assistance, particularly to provide a Cornish social and cultural context, to those tracing their Cornish family histories.
- 3.0 **MEMBERSHIP:** Membership of the Association shall be open to: -
- 3.1 Cornishmen and Cornishwomen by birth or descent, their wives, husbands and children.
 - 3.2 Other persons connected with Cornwall whose applications are approved by the Association.
- 4.0 **COMMITTEE:** The Committee of the Association, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be: -
- 4.1 *President*
 - 4.2 *Secretary / Treasurer, or a Secretary and a Treasurer (who may be re-elected).*
 - 4.3 The minimum number shall be four (4) members including Officers and the maximum number shall be fifteen (15) who shall have power to co-opt members to make up the minimum until the next Annual General Meeting.
 - 4.4 The President shall be chairman of the Committee; in the event that he / she declines or is unavailable, at any time, the Committee shall elect from its members a Chairman.
 - 4.5 Committee members failing to attend three (3) meetings in succession without either prior leave of absence or by tendering their apologies, either written or verbal, shall be considered to have negated their position on the Committee.
 - 4.6 Notification of all Committee meetings is to be given to those entitled to attend.
 - 4.7 When sub-committees are formed their responsibilities are to be as clearly defined as seems reasonable, and if necessary, an authority to spend up to a given amount, in keeping with the circumstances should be granted.
- 5.0 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:-**
The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held on the weekend nearest to the 5th of March (Saint Piran's Day) at a place to be decided by the Committee. Proposals for consideration at the meeting shall be received by the Committee not later than one calendar month before the meeting. Notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given in the Newsletter, but accidental omission to give notice to any member shall not invalidate the meeting.
- 6.0 **SUBSCRIPTION :-**
The Committee shall establish a subscription annually or may decide not to levy a subscription. Provision may be made for Life Membership and Honorary Membership to approved persons for services rendered to either Cornwall or the Association.
- 7.0 **MEMBERSHIP :-**
A membership list shall be produced at meetings and as far is practicable kept up to date.
- 8.0 **ANNUAL REPORTS :-**
The financial year shall end on 31st December each year and as soon thereafter as convenient reports covering the year's activities, with a statement of accounts, shall be available to all members of the Association upon request prior to the meeting, and at the Annual General Meeting.
- 9.0 **NEWSLETTER :-**
Cornish Association of New South Wales newsletters shall be sent to all financial members of the Association. The Editor / Editors shall be appointed by the Committee.
The Editor / Editors shall be empowered to send copies at the expense of the Association to other Cornish Associations, kindred bodies and such organisations, media and persons as the Committee considers may be able to further the objects of the Association.

- 10.0 **ADVERTISING :-**
The Association shall from time to time and upon direction from the Committee advertise for new members in the newspapers.
- 11.0 **TRAVELLING EXPENSES :-**
Any Committee member may be reimbursed for reasonable travelling expenses etc., incurred in attending such meetings, conventions, etc. as may be desired by the Committee and attending as Official Representative of the Association.
- 12.0 **HONORARIUMS :-**
Honorariums may be voted to any officer or member of the Committee that the Association deems worthy and shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting.
- 13.0 **ENTITLEMENT TO VOTE :-**
Only financial members in accordance with *rule 6* shall be entitled to vote or make propositions etc., at the meetings of the Associations.
- 14.0 **QUORUM :-**
A quorum shall consist of five (5) members which must include one officer and when predominantly financial matters are being considered, the Treasurer, when that office is a separate appointment. Notwithstanding the above, the Officers have power to act in consultation with each other to ensure the smooth running of the Association in matters other than that of policy.
- 15.0 **COUNTRY MEMBERS :-**
Country members shall receive by mail copies of the reports etc. as in *rule 8* and be entitled to vote by proxy.
- 16.0 **COMMUNICATION & DISPERSED ACTIVITIES:-**
Notwithstanding all previous clauses – communication with members, meetings, and other activities may be undertaken using current electronic, digital, audio and/or visual communications; and in dispersed locations.
- 17.0 **AMENDMENT OF RULES :-**
These rules may be amended by a two-third majority vote taken at the Annual General Meeting providing that the requirements of *rule 5* have been met.

The above are the 17 general rules of the Association.

In addition there are further rules dealing with Branches of the Association, if and when such Branches are formed.

BRANCHES

- (a) **AS** and when there is sufficient interest and demand Branches of the Association may be established.
- (b) **OFFICERS:** Every Branch shall appoint a Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The latter two offices may be held by the same person.
- (c) **MEMBERSHIP:** Every branch shall charge its members a fee for membership of the Branch, such fee to be decided at each General Meeting of the Branch. No Branch shall permit anyone to become a member of the Branch who is not a member of the Association.
- (d) **ACTIVITIES:** Branches shall organise their own activities.
- (e) **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:** Every Branch shall submit to the Association Secretary as soon as possible after the close of the financial year and in any case not later than 15th January each year, a financial statement covering the year's income and expenditure together with a balance sheet.
- (f) **FINANCES:** Finances raised by the Branch for its own use shall remain the property of that branch and not revert to the Association, but at such time as a Branch becomes inoperative, then that Branch may go into recess of up to five years, at which time it will become defunct and any Branch funds shall then revert to the Association.

These Rules were accepted by the members of the Cornish Association of Sydney at a regularly called and constituted meeting of the Association on the 5th day of July, 1975, and as subsequently amended as below:

- 1976 *Changes to notice for matters for AGM and notifying members of the meetings.*
- 1988 *Name changed from Cornish Association of Sydney at the AGM on 5th March 1988 and all references to Sydney, or Sydney and District, altered accordingly.*
- 1994 *Rule 4.4 changed on 5th March, 1994 so that instead of the Committee electing a Chairman at its first meeting, the President is now automatically the Chairman unless declining or unavailable at any time..*
- 1995 *Objects changed in clauses 2.1, 2.1, 2.3, and the additional 2.4 and 2.5 were added.*
- 2019 *At AGM of 2nd March, 2019 - the Rule 4.3 changed to reduce minimum from 9 to 4; insertion of a new Rule 16, and the former Rule 16 was renumbered 17.*

The Cornish Association of NSW is an unincorporated body.