

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE
(THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA) INC.

STANDING ORDERS

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UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (UWA) INC.

Standing Orders

1. PREAMBLE

1.1 The University of the Third Age, the University of Western Australia *Incorporated* and its Rules of Association are hereafter referred to as, respectively, the "Association" and as the "Rules".

1.2 These Standing Orders derive their authority from the Association's Rules, Rule 66 By-Laws. No part of these Standing Orders may be interpreted as contrary to any provision of the said Rules

1.3 The Council, as constituted and empowered under Rule 26 of the Rules, is the Association's governing body. The Council shall be answerable at all times to general meetings convened in accordance with Rule 53 of the Rules.

2. ADMINISTRATION

2.1 The central administration of the Association retains a proportion of all monies received by the Association to provide services and programs for the benefit of members. The remaining funds are allocated to the Regions.

2.2 The day to day administration of the Association's affairs is the responsibility of the General Secretary acting under the guidance of the Association's Council. The General Treasurer maintains the Association's financial records and provides such advice to Regional Treasurers and the Council.

3. AFFILIATIONS

3.1 Definition

"Affiliation" shall indicate a cooperative association between bodies, which have analogous membership criteria, aims and objectives. An affiliation shall be for the purpose of, jointly, furthering such aims and objectives.

3.2 Requisite Preliminaries to an Affiliation: there shall be an exchange of documents specifying the membership criteria, aims and objectives of the respective bodies. Usually, the documents will be copies of the respective (incorporated) Rules of Association and By Laws. Lacking such documents, a University of the Third Age may submit a formal declaration detailing these matters. Such a document shall be signed by both its chief executive (President/Chairman) and its Secretary.

3.3 Agreement on financial matters shall be reached, for example, at-cost provision of lectures or summaries, newsletters and other publications of mutual interest.

3.4 Conditions regarding participation in each other's learning sessions and other activities shall be agreed.

3.5 Ratification of Affiliation shall be by a majority of those present at a general meeting of the Association.

4. CUSTODY OF BOOKS, SECURITIES AND ARCHIVAL RECORDS

4.1 The custody of books and securities is to be in accordance with Rule 71 (1-4) of the Rules.

4.2 Requirements for archival records are as follows:

- Books of Account and supporting documents 7 years
- Documents of historical interest need to be retained indefinitely

5. APPOINTMENTS

5.1 Office Bearers: The powers and responsibilities of each individual appointment within the Association are set forth in Appendix "A", hereto.

5.2 Committees and Work Groups: Pursuant to its obligations under Rule 49 of the Rules of Association, the Council may appoint standing or temporary committees or work groups or appoint a convener for the above. Terms of reference shall be provided by Council for their deliberations and their recommendations and/or conclusions be reported back to Council by a specified date for ratification and implementation.

6. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

6.1 Rules for the conduct of Council and Committee meetings within the Association shall be in accordance with Rules 41-50 of the Rules.

7. COUNCIL MEMBERS

7.1 Delegates on Council are elected by their respective Regions and, as such, are voting members of the Council and are also responsible for maintaining a two-way flow of information and advice between the Council and their respective Regional Committees.

7.2 At the first meeting of the Council following the AGM, Members fill such roles of the Association who are not elected at a General Meeting under Rule 51 of the Rules.

7.3 Council can appoint non-members, whether paid or not, to carry out specific tasks on the Association's behalf.

7.4 Council members must be fully conversant with the Rules of Association and in particular Division 2 – Composition of Council and Duties of Members.

7.5 New delegates elected at Regional AGMs shall not take their place on U3A Council until the first Council Meeting after the U3A (UWA) AGM at which their delegacy is ratified and shall remain delegates up to and including the last Council Meeting prior to the next U3A (UWA) AGM. (Rule 35)

8. FINANCIAL MATTERS

8.1 The annual membership subscription, as determined by Council, provides for the following:

8.1.1 Central Office running costs;

8.1.2 Premiums on insurances providing protection to the entire Association;

8.1.3 Costs associated with the provision of centrally organised events and publicity on behalf of the Association;

8.1.4 Maintenance of a proper (interest-earning) financial reserve.

8.1.5 Annual disbursements to Regions being an amount as determined from time to time by Council

8.2 Each incorporated Region shall cover the cost of its regional social activities.

8.3 Information on Financial Matters. Any member may approach their Regional or General Treasurer to obtain information or clarification of any financial matter.

9. PROXY AND POSTAL VOTES

9.1 Proxies

9.1.1 An authority to vote may be assigned by any member to any other member to vote on behalf of the assignor at any annual general meeting or extra-ordinary general meeting of the Association. Rule 54.1 of the Rules.

9.1.2 No member shall appoint more than one proxy simultaneously. No member may act by proxy for more than five assignors at any meeting. Rule 54.2 of the Rules.

9.1.3 The assignor may direct the assignee how to vote on any motion or election, and the assignee shall vote as so instructed. Alternatively the assignor may give the assignee absolute or conditional discretion to vote on the assignor's behalf. Rules 54.4 and 54.5 of the Rules.

9.1.4 The assignor must provide the assignee with an authority to act as proxy in writing on the Form provided by the Association, available from the General Secretary of the Association. The assignee must present such authority to the General Secretary before the commencement of any meeting at which the proxy is exercised or the completed authority form may be posted or forwarded electronically to be received by the Association no later than 24 hours before the commencement of the meeting. Rule 54.6 to 54.9

9.1.5 Proxy voting is not permitted at Council meetings, where Rule 47 shall apply.

9.2 It should be noted there is no provision for postal voting in the Rules. Voting is in person or by proxy only.

9.2.3 The Chairman shall make the necessary arrangements to convene an extra-ordinary or annual general meeting and issue an agenda containing Notice(s) of Motion setting out the precise wording to be put to the vote. Rules 52 and 53 of the Rules.

APPENDIX "A"

1. DUTIES AND POWERS OF OFFICE BEARERS

1.1 General.

All office-bearers shall be members of the Association. However, in special circumstances Council may approve a non-member to fill specific positions.

1.2 Sub-Rule 27.5 of the Rules of Association provides that Councillors may not hold more than one of the offices of President, Deputy President, General Secretary or General Treasurer at the same time.

2. PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

2.1 The President of the Association may be any member of the Association elected to that office at an annual general meeting of the Association. Once so elected, the President may not hold office at Regional level

2.2 The President of the Association's functions include:

2.2.1 Representing the Association;

2.2.2 Functioning as the Association's Chief Executive;

2.2.3 Chairing Association or Council meetings;

2.2.4 as appropriate, convening meetings;

2.2.5 Keeping informed the Deputy President and University Extension representative of matters of concern.

2.2.6 To consult with the General Secretary regarding the business to be conducted at each Council meeting and General meeting.

2.2.7 In conjunction with the Deputy President and the General Secretary or the General Treasurer, making decisions of an urgent nature.

2.3 The nature of such an urgent decision shall be conveyed to the Council at the next meeting for ratification.

3. CHAIRMAN OF A REGIONAL COMMITTEE

3.1 The Chairman of a Regional Committee shall be a member of that Region and the function of the Role shall include:

3.1.1 Representing the Region;

3.1.2 Functioning as the Region's Chief Executive;

3.1.3 To consult with the Region Secretary regarding the business to be conducted at each Region meeting.

3.1.4 Chairing Regional meetings;

3.1.5 As appropriate, convening meetings;

3.1.6 In conjunction with the Regional Secretary and Treasurer, making decisions of an urgent nature.

3.2 The nature of such urgent decision shall be conveyed to the Regional Committee at the next meeting for ratification.

4. DEPUTY PRESIDENT and VICE-PRESIDENT

4.1 The Association's Deputy President is elected at the Annual General Meeting.

4.2 When the President is unavailable, the Deputy President shall assume the duties of the President. Rule 29 of the Rules.

4.3 The duties of the Deputy President are to (i) assist the President and be aware of the latter's views on Association matters and (ii) oversee activities as decided by Council.

4.4 If the Deputy is also a Delegate and the Deputy assumes the chair, the Region so deprived of the delegate shall be asked to elect or nominate another delegate

4.2 A Regional Deputy Chairman shall act as deputy to the Regional Chairman.

5. SECRETARIES

5.1 The role of General Secretary (to the Association and Council) and of Secretary (to a Region) is to function as the principle administrative officer of the body concerned.

5.2 Council may appoint a Minutes Secretary to record minutes at meetings and is responsible to the General Secretary, or Secretary, for their layout, accuracy and distribution.

5.3 The General Secretary is responsible to the Council for:

5.3.1 The safe custody of the Association's correspondence, records and other important documents.

5.3.2 Proper maintenance of the Council's minutes;

5.3.3 Ensures that an accurate and up to date register of financial members of the Association is kept;

5.3.4 Implements decisions allotted by the Council;

5.3.5 Maintains a record of the gist of important telephone and/or face-to-face conversations regarding Association matters;

5.3.6 Ensures that membership applications are properly recorded and that the accompanying subscriptions are transferred to the General Treasurer.

5.3.7 Ensures that copies of details of new members are rapidly transmitted to the Regional Secretary concerned;

5.3.8 Efficient running of the Association's Central Office including general oversight, that all work performed therein shall be as the President/Chair deems appropriate, without prejudice to the authority of the Council;

5.3.9 Maintains a general oversight of the work of the Minute Secretary (if appointed).

5.4 A Regional Secretary is responsible to the Region concerned for implementing the following:

5.4.1 Transmitting to the General Secretary such membership applications and subscriptions as may be received at the Region;

5.4.2 As appropriately modified, carrying out duties analogous to those detailed under "The General Secretary" when so decided by the Regional Committee concerned.

6. TREASURERS

6.1 All Treasurers shall:

6.1.1 produce to their respective meetings the balance of the cash in hand;

6.1.2 maintain their Books and manage their Funds in conformity with accepted accounting procedures as supplemented by the content of the Association's "Treasurer Guide".

6.2 The General Treasurer shall:

6.2.1 Report to the Council meetings the balance of the cash in hand;

6.2.2 Undertake responsibility for preparation of the annual Receipts and Payments Account for submission to the annual review;

6.2.3 Prepare the Association's Annual Budget in collaboration with the Finance Committee and present the Budget to Council for ratification;

6.2.4 Allocate to each Region such monies as may from time to time be decided and agreed on by Council.

6.3 A Regional Treasurer shall:

6.3.1 Forward to the General Treasurer membership subscriptions through the Association Central Office;

6.3.2 Submit to the General Treasurer, the Annual Receipt and Payments Account.

7. PROGRAM CO-ORDINATORS

7.1 All Program Co-ordinators are responsible for facilitating the organisation of Learning Sessions (courses/lectures/talks) requested or suggested by the members. This may include suggesting suitable topics to members. Program Co-ordinators are, also, responsible for maintaining liaison with their Publicity Officers.

7.2 The Regional Program Coordinator shall:

7.2.1 Maintain a two-way flow of information between the Region and Council on matters of educational interest and programs through the Regional delegate to Council;

7.2.2 Ensure that the maximum practicable publicity is given to the Region's Learning Activities;

7.2.3 Provide details of programmes to the Newsletter Editor by the specified date and to the web manager as soon as available. Also provide details of any changes to the web manager as soon as possible

8. COMMITTEES

8.1 Under the direction of U3A (UWA) Council, Sub-Committees or Working Groups can be formed for specific purposes.

9. PRIVACY OF MEMBERS.

9.1 Regional contact persons are to be nominated by the Regions. In nominating them, they shall have obtained their consent for contact details to be made known.

APPENDIX "B"

FINANCIAL MATTERS INCOME - RECEIPT AND ALLOCATION

1. FINANCIAL RIGHTS AND LIABILITIES OF MEMBERS

1.1 In principle and in conformity with the aims of the Association, members donate their time and effort to their fellow members.

1.1.1 Those who are involved in administration and/or management and who are frequently required to attend on Association business at central office or other Association venues or those who regularly represent the Association on other bodies, shall be permitted to claim an allowance at a rate fixed from time to time by Council.

1.1.2 Claims for reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses by members involved in administration and/or management duties, or who are engaged on specific tasks authorised by Council, may be submitted for consideration and approval by Council.

1.2 All reimbursements shall be entirely at the discretion of Council or of the Regional Committee, whichever is appropriate.

1.3 Termination of membership of the Association, for whatever reason, leaves the person liable for all subscriptions, levies, and other monies due by him but unpaid, before the date of that termination.

1.4 All members shall be deemed to be financial from the day of payment of their subscription for membership until the 31st day of January in the subsequent membership year.

2. ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES

2.1 Accounting procedures, whether at Council/Association or at Regional level shall follow accepted sound practice.

2.2 a) Names of accounts shall be as follows:

University of the Third Age (UWA) Inc. - Association A/c No.'.

University of the Third Age (UWA) Inc. – (Insert Regions name) Region A/c No.'.

2.2 b) Regions shall open only one operating account and notify the General Treasurer of any details relating to any term deposit account.

2.3 There shall be four signatories authorised by the Council for the Association account and these four names shall include that of the General Treasurer. All cheques shall be signed by no less than two of four signatories concerned for the Association account.

2.4 All payments processed electronically require the authorisation of two of the four signatories.

2.5 There shall be four signatories authorised by the Regional Committee for all of the Regions Accounts, and these four names shall include the Regional Treasurer. All cheques shall be signed by not less than two of the four signatories concerned. All banking both by Regions of U3A (UWA) and Council of U3A (UWA) shall be restricted to Bankwest.

2.6 Changes to signatories at Association or Regional level must be minuted and those said presented at the bank when the changes are made.

2.7 Opening or closing any account shall be authorised only by a U3A (UWA) Council Resolution. To obtain such authority the Region must apply in writing to the General Treasurer who will submit the application to Council for ratification as soon as practicable. The Council minutes must be sent to Bankwest Head Office, Bankwest local branch and the Regional Chairman.

2.8 All funds and assets of the association whether held by Regions or by Council are the property of U3A (UWA) Inc. Any disposal of these assets (unless the proceeds remain within the property of the association) may be made only with the authority of the relevant Regional Committee and U3A UWA Council. Regional Committees are hereby authorised to approve payments to meet current expenses to the limit of their respective Regional incomes without entering into any debt facility