

# **THE SCOTTISH RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION**

## **CONSTITUTION**

**(As amended by the National AGM in June 2015)**

1. The Association shall be called "The Scottish Retired Teachers' Association".
2. The object of the Association shall be to promote and guard the interests of retired teachers and, in particular, to ensure fair and just treatment in respect of pensions.
3. Membership shall be open to all retired teachers.
- 4.1 The Association shall operate in and through Branches whose territorial limits shall be determined by the Executive Committee of the Association. Any individual qualified under Paragraph 3 shall be eligible for membership of which ever branch is most convenient.
- 4.2 Individual membership of the Association may be granted to any retired teacher qualified under Paragraph 3 who normally resides in an area not covered by a Branch of the Association.
5. The following Office-Bearers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting:
  - (a)(i) President (who shall serve for two consecutive years);
  - (ii) Vice-President (who shall serve for two consecutive years);
  - (iii) Secretary and Minutes Secretary, each of which shall serve for three consecutive years;
  - (iv) Treasurer, who shall be eligible for re-election annually;
  - (v) Assistants to the Secretary and Treasurer (if necessary).
  - (b) Honorary Presidents shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting. The number of Honorary Presidents at any time shall not exceed four.
  - (c) The appointment of representatives to the Public Service Pensioners' Council (PSPC) shall be determined by the Annual General Meeting.
  - (d) An Auditor/ Independent Examiner of Accounts shall be nominated by the Branch to which the Treasurer belongs, and confirmed at the following National Executive Meeting. The Auditor need not be a member of the Association.
- 6.1 The business of the Association shall be conducted by an Executive Committee consisting of the Office-Bearers, the Immediate Past President, and one representative from each Branch, elected by its members, and eligible for re-election. A substitute may be appointed if the elected Representative is unable to attend a business meeting.
- 6.2 Individual members of the Association may attend as observers and at their own expense meetings of the Executive Committee and Annual General Meetings.
7. A President's Committee, which shall have powers to co-opt, shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, Secretary and Treasurer, to deal with matters of urgency or matters remitted by the Executive Committee.
8. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of June at a place and on a date to be fixed by the Executive Committee, and shall consist of the following:
  - (a) The Office-Bearers and any other members of the Executive Committee.
  - (b) Up to two members of each Branch. The Association will meet their reasonable travelling expenses. Both representatives will have voting rights.
  - (c) The Honorary Presidents and any others approved by the Executive Committee.

(d) If the President of the Association is not able to take the chair at a National Executive Committee Meeting, the Vice-President should preside; if the Vice-President is not available, the Immediate Past President should preside. If the Immediate Past President is not available, the members present should elect one of their number to preside at that meeting.

9. At the Annual General Meeting the report of the Executive Committee shall be submitted; motions from the Executive Committee and from Branches considered; Office-Bearers for the ensuing year appointed; and other business transacted. Motions from Branches must be sent to the National Secretary not later than 30th April.

10.1 The financial year of the Association shall run from 1st May in one year to 30th April in the next year. The Annual General Meeting shall have powers to fix from year to year the annual subscriptions from all members of the Branches, whose Treasurers shall submit to the National Treasurer those subscriptions as soon as possible in the financial year, and not later than 28th February.

10.2. The Annual General Meeting shall determine the annual subscriptions to be paid to the National Treasurer by the individual members of the Branches.

11. Branches shall make their own arrangements for (a) communicating with individual members; (b) Branch Meetings; (c) the formation of District Groups to facilitate closer contacts and better communication; (d) the admission of non-members to meetings, as desired.

12. Alterations to the Constitution shall be made only at the Annual General Meeting, and notice of any desired changes shall be in the hands of the National Secretary not later than 30th April.

13. Any proposal to discontinue the Association shall be made only at the Annual General Meeting of the Association, at which the disposal of funds and any other relevant business shall be decided. This meeting shall be called by the President's Committee.