

# **CONSTITUTION OF THE WEST COAST WHITEBAITERS ASSOCIATION (INC)**

## **1. NAME**

The name of the Association shall be 'The West Coast Whitebaiters Association Incorporated'

## **2. Objects**

The objects of the Association shall be:-

- (i) To protect and enhance by all possible means the interests of whitebait fishers in the territorial areas covered by the Whitebait Fishing [West Coast] Regulations or statutory provisions
- (ii) To encourage, promote and safeguard in any matter which the Association thinks fit the conservation and propagation of all species of the whitebait in the recognition that the resource must be preserved for the benefit of the present and future generations
- (iii) To recognise and honour the Treaty of Waitangi

## **3. MEMBERSHIP**

Membership shall be open to all persons who:-

- (i) Have genuine desire to achieve the objects of the Association; and
- (ii) Reside, or from time to time-to-time fish for whitebait, within the territory of the Association as designed in the objects clause above

## **4. Application for Membership**

Application for membership shall be made by completing and forwarding the membership form prescribed of that purpose together with the appropriate subscription to the Secretary, who will submit the application for election to the membership by the committee at its next meeting

## **5. Subscriptions**

The annual subscription shall be fixed in each year by the Association at the Annual General Meeting. Subscriptions shall be due to the Treasurer on the last day of the month following the month of the Annual General Meeting.

## 6. Termination of Membership

Any member may resign from the Association at any time upon delivering a written resignation to the Secretary but any such resignation shall not release the member from payment of any subscription due or payable at the time of such resignation.

## 7. Expulsion

The Committee may, subject to giving the member concerned proper hearing rights, expel the Association any member who, in the opinion of the Committee, has been involved in conduct unworthy of a member or which is or might be injurious to the interests of the Association and/or its members.

## 8. BRANCHES

The Association shall have branches as defined by the Committee and the boundaries of such Branches shall be those boundaries determined by the Committee from time-to-time. Each Branch shall be entitled to two delegates to be elected annually at a meeting to the Branch.

## 9. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The financial year of the Association shall commence on the first day of April in each year and shall end on the thirty first day of March the following year. An Annual General Meeting shall be held each year between the first day of May and thirtieth day of September at a time and place determined by the Committee for the following purposes:-

- (i) To receive from the Committee the President's report, Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts for the preceding year
- (ii) To elect a President, Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer [the offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be jointly held by the same person]
- (iii) To determine by resolution any matters which may be duly submitted to the meeting
- (iv) To consider any matters of general business

## 10. Special General Meeting

A special General Meeting of the Association shall be convened by the Secretary when directed by the Committee or on the written requisition of twenty or more members of the Association. Every requisition shall state the purpose for which the meeting is required and the meeting shall be covered within thirty days of receipt of such requisition.

## 11. Notice of Meetings

At least fourteen days' notice shall be given of all general meetings and such notice shall state the general nature of the business to be transacted and state the date, time and place of such general meeting. Notice may be given by advertisement in local newspapers, display in public places or by written notice to individual members. Irregularities in connection with notices required by this Rule shall not invalidate any of the proceedings of a General Meeting or any election of other business carried out thereat.

## 12. Procedure at General Meeting

- (i) A quorum shall consist of Twelve members of the Association
- (ii) All items calling for a vote shall be decided upon a majority of the votes cast
- (iii) All voting, other than for election of officers, shall be by voice or show of hands unless a secret ballot is demanded by the Chair or at least three members entitled to vote.
- (iv) The mode of voting on all elections at the Annual General Meeting shall be by secret ballot for which purpose scrutineers shall be appointed at the meeting
- (v) Voting by proxy shall not be permitted

## 13. COMMITTEE

- (i) The Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and Delegates for the Branches as provided for in this Constitution
- (ii) The Committee shall have the power subject at all times to resolutions of general meetings to:-
  - (a) Exercise all such powers and do all acts and things as may be done by the Association and as are not hereby required to be done or exercised by the Association in general meeting
  - (b) Delegate any of its powers as it deems fit
  - (c) Appoint and discharge such sub-committees to assist in carrying out the work of the Association as it may deem necessary

- (d) Appoint Association Delegates to other bodies
- (e) Appoint a member to fill any casual vacancy on the committee or to any office of the Association until the next meeting
- (f) Settle any questions which may arise and regulate its own proceedings and those of sub-committees as are not specifically provided for in these rules

#### 14. Meetings of Committee

The Committee shall meet from time-to-time as it deems necessary. All committee members shall be given fourteen days' notice of the date, place and time of such meetings but the President has power to call a meeting at shorter notice for urgent business. A quorum shall consist of 50% of the members of the committee.

#### 15. Nominations

Nominations shall be made at the relevant general meeting and shall be received until the chair declares nominations closed.

#### 16. AUDIT

The accounts of the Association shall be audited annually by such suitably qualified persons as shall be determined by the Committee.

#### 17. COMMON SEAL

The Association shall have a common seal which shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary for the time being and shall be used only in pursuance of a resolution of the Committee and the application of the seal shall be attested by two members of the Committee.

#### 18. REGISTERED OFFICE

The registered office of the Association shall be at such place as may be determined from time-to-time by the Committee.

#### 19. ALTERATIONS OF RULES

These rules may be altered, added to or rescinded by resolution carried by seventy five percent [75%] of those present and entitled to vote at any general meeting of the Association. Notice of such proposed change must be advertised with the notices of the meeting. No addition to or alteration or rescission of the rules shall be approved if it affects the winding up clause.

## 20. WINDING UP

- (i) The Association may be voluntarily wound up in accordance with Section 25 of the Incorporated Societies Act 1908
- (ii) In the event of winding up, the property and assets of the Association after the discharge of all liabilities shall not be divided among the members but shall be donated to such charitable organisation or body as may be determined by resolution at the general meeting at which the resolution to wind up is passed.

## 21. ALTERATIONS TO RULES

No member of the organisation or any person associated with a member shall participate in, or materially influence, any decision made by the organisation in respect of the payment to or on behalf of that member or associated person of any income benefit or advantage whatsoever.

Any such income paid shall be reasonable and relative to that which would be paid in an arm's length transaction [being open market value]. The provision and effect of this clause shall not be removed from this document and shall be included and implied into any documents replacing this document.