



IRISH NATURIST ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

(1) TITLE and AFFILIATION

1(A) The name of the Association shall be the ***IRISH NATURIST ASSOCIATION***.

1(B) The Association shall be affiliated to the International Naturist Federation or to whichever organisation represents the interests of naturists world wide.

(2) AIMS and OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of the Association shall be:

2(A) The furtherance and the promotion of Naturism, advocating the pursuit of sport and leisure activities without clothing in suitable circumstances.

2(B) To assist in the foundation, development and co-ordination of all bona-fide Naturist groups in Ireland.

2(C) To safeguard and further the standards of Naturism, to ensure that Naturism is presented creditably at all times and to foster a sympathetic understanding and tolerance of Naturism in the community at large.

2(D) To represent Irish naturists both nationally and internationally and to foster friendly relations with naturists in other countries.

2(E) To seek the legalisation of bona-fide naturist activities and the provision of official naturist facilities in Ireland.

2(F) To provide a forum for the practise and development of Naturism by organising such social and sporting events as may be appropriate.

2(G) To do all such useful things as are incidental to or consequential upon, or otherwise calculated to further the aims and objectives of the Association.

(3) MEMBERSHIP

3(A) Membership of the Association shall be subject to the approval of the Association's Committee and shall be open to individuals, couples and families. Membership shall, except for attendance and voting purposes at General Meetings, be based on the Unit which shall be an individual, a couple or a family according to the status of the applicants(s). The Committee may, at its absolute discretion and without having to state a reason, refuse to accept an application for membership. The Committee may refuse to renew the membership of any member where, due to unacceptable conduct or other serious reason, this would not be in the best interests of the Association or its members.

3(B) Members shall abide by the rules of the Association as set out in this Constitution and in Standing Orders and also by all other reasonable rules or requirements as may be laid down by the Committee. They shall at all times respect their fellow members and shall conduct themselves appropriately at all times.

3(C) All personal information given by members to the Association shall be treated as confidential in accordance with the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation and other relevant statutory requirements.

3(D) There shall be no discrimination against any applicant or member on the grounds of sex, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, race or colour. This article shall not preclude any affiliated group or club from regulating its membership so as to provide for a balance between the sexes.

3(E) It shall be deemed unacceptable for any member to behave in a manner which in the opinion of the Committee or of the Membership is not in the best interests of the Association, or which has brought the Association into disrepute.

3(F) A member charged with unacceptable conduct shall be given an opportunity to submit in writing, or make an oral presentation, to the Committee within one month any observations he/she may wish to make on the charge against him/her and the Committee shall consider such observations before arriving at a decision.

3(G) A member found guilty of unacceptable conduct by the Committee may be censured, suspended or expelled from the Association. Such a member shall have a right to appeal to the next Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting as the case may be.

3(H) Except where the conduct of a member is such as to necessitate immediate suspension, disciplinary procedures against a member under the provisions of this Article shall not be taken except on the basis of a written statement. Where a member makes a complaint against another member the Committee may, at its discretion, request a written statement.

3(I) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution or of Standing Orders, voting at a General Meeting on any issue concerning the suspension or expulsion of a member shall be by secret ballot and by majority vote.

3(J) A member who has been expelled or who is under suspension shall have no right to attend or participate at any meeting or any function of the Association, other than a General Meeting at which his/her suspension or expulsion will be decided upon, or to perform any office, or to represent the Association in any capacity or to receive any refund of membership fees. S/he shall return, on demand, his/her Association membership card and/or International Naturist Federation membership card to the Membership Secretary.

3(K) All notices issued to a member under the provisions of this Article shall be deemed to have been received by the member if they have been sent to his/her last known e-mail or postal address.

3(L) The time limits specified in this Article may be extended if the Committee is satisfied that owing to absence, serious illness or other reasonable cause the member was prevented from lodging an appeal within the time stated and that s/he lodged an appeal thereafter without unreasonable delay.

3(M) For the purposes of this Constitution and of Standing Orders the term "fully paid up member" in any particular year shall mean a member who has paid the full amount of the membership fee for that year and the term "adult member" shall mean a member over the age of eighteen years who has paid or is liable to pay the full amount of the membership fee. Membership fees shall be payable on January 1st each year and shall be in respect of the period from January 1st to December 31st of that year.

3(N) The Committee may at its absolute discretion refuse an application for membership or may refuse to renew the membership of any member where, due to unacceptable conduct or other serious reason, this would not be in the best interests of the Association or its members.

3(O) The Committee may refuse entry to any event organised by the Association to any person, including members of the Association or of a Federation which is affiliated to the International Naturist Federation where, due to unacceptable conduct or other serious reason, this would not be in the best interests of the Association or its members. In the case of misconduct by a member of a Federation which is affiliated to the International Naturist Federation the Committee may, at its discretion, advise the relevant Federation accordingly.

3(P) No child or young person under the age of 18 shall be admitted to membership of the Association independently of his/her parent or guardian.

3(Q) No child or young person under the age of 18 shall be admitted to an Association event unless accompanied by his/her parent or guardian. Parents and guardians must supervise children in their care at all times.

3 (R) The taking of photographs or moving images of any child or young person under the age of 18 at any Association event is strictly prohibited.

(4) ANNUAL AND EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

4(A) A General Meeting of the Association shall be held annually within fifteen months of the outgoing Committee assuming office. Preliminary notice of each Annual General Meeting shall be issued to all members not less than eight weeks prior to the date thereof. The agenda, including a financial report and details of all motions received by the Committee, shall be issued to members not later than three weeks prior to the date of the Meeting.

4(B) The Committee may, whenever it appears appropriate, summon an Extraordinary General Meeting.

4(C) On receipt by the Committee of a requisition in writing signed by at least twenty fully paid up adult members, the Committee must within four weeks call an Extraordinary General Meeting, the purpose(s) of which must be stated in the requisition.

4(D) Notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be issued to all members not later than three weeks prior to the date of the Meeting and shall contain only the time, place and purpose of the Meeting. The purpose(s) of the Meeting shall be specified clearly in the Notice. No other correspondence relating to the matters to be discussed at the Meeting shall be circulated by the Committee or by individual members other than a notification of a change in the date, time and place of such Meeting.

4(E) Decisions shall not be taken at an Extraordinary General Meeting on any subject(s) other than the subject(s) for which the Meeting was convened.

4(F) The accidental omission to give notice of a Meeting to, or the non receipt of such notice by any member entitled to receive one shall not invalidate any decisions taken at such a Meeting.

4(G) At all General Meetings each adult member of a fully paid up unit present at the Meeting shall be entitled to one vote. Decisions on all matters other than amendments to this Constitution shall be taken by majority vote.

4(H) All communications to members and Committee members under this and all other articles of this Constitution and of Standing Orders may be issued electronically.

(5) AMENDMENTS TO THIS CONSTITUTION

5(A) Amendments to this Constitution shall not be made except at an Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose.

5(B) An amendment shall not be valid unless it is approved by two thirds of the fully paid up members present at the General Meeting.

5(C) Subject to the appropriate Standing Orders being enacted and in force, the words "members present" in Articles 4(G) and 5(C) shall be deemed to include members present by proxy.

(6) THE COMMITTEE

6(A) The affairs of the Association shall be administered and directed in a fair and democratic manner by a Committee, which shall consist of the Honorary Officers: President, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary, and as many other members as is deemed necessary. The number of members required to be elected to the Committee at a General Meeting shall be recommended by the outgoing Committee for approval by the Meeting.

6(B) The Committee shall be elected by majority vote from amongst the membership at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose and shall continue in office until the next Annual

General Meeting, during which the Committee shall collectively resign. Members of the Committee may offer themselves for re-election.

6(C) Each group or club which is affiliated to the Association shall have the right to nominate one member to represent it on the Committee. The Committee shall have the power of co-option to fill any vacancy arising during the year.

6(D) The Committee shall, in accordance with Standing Orders, determine its own business and occasions for meeting, but no decision shall be taken unless there is a quorum of its members present. A majority of the Committee members shall constitute a quorum. Decisions shall be taken by simple majority vote of those present.

6(E) The Committee may appoint sub-committees as it sees fit to assist in the running of the Association.

6(F) Only fully paid up members of the Association shall be eligible to serve on the Committee or on any sub-committee.

(7) FINANCIAL MATTERS

7(A) Each Unit of membership, as defined in Article 3(A), shall pay to the funds of the Association an annual subscription, the rate(s) of which shall be determined at a General Meeting. Membership of the Association shall automatically cease when the subscription is more than twelve months in arrears.

7(B) All monies received shall be applied solely towards the Aims and Objectives of the Association as set out in Article 2.

7(C) The Treasurer shall keep proper Books of Account in which shall be recorded all monies received and expended and which shall give a true and fair view of the affairs of the Association. The Books of Account shall always be open to the inspection of members of the Committee and shall be audited at least once per year.

7(D) Bank accounts shall be maintained in the name of the Association. All cheques drawn on or withdrawals from such accounts shall be signed by the Treasurer and any other honorary officer authorised by the Committee.

7(E) A Financial Report containing an Income and Expenditure Account shall be presented to each Annual General Meeting, having first been circulated to each member at least three weeks prior to the date of such Meeting.

(8) STANDING ORDERS

8(A) The Association shall adopt Standing Orders to regulate its business.

8(B) All Standing Orders adopted must be in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.



IRISH NATURIST ASSOCIATION

STANDING ORDERS

1. THE COMMITTEE:

1.1. The functions to be carried out by the Honorary Officers of the Irish Naturist Association, hereinafter referred to as "The Association", shall be as follows:

PRESIDENT: The President shall chair all Committee meetings and General Meetings. S/He shall, in consultation with the other Committee members, be responsible for directing and implementing the policies of the Association as decided at General Meetings.

SECRETARY: The Secretary shall keep a record of all Committee Meetings and General Meetings and of any disciplinary procedures under Article 3 of the Constitution of the Association, hereinafter referred to as "The Constitution". S/he shall ensure that the Minutes of each meeting accurately reflect all decisions taken. S/He shall set the Agenda for General Meetings, shall issue all Notices to members concerning such Meetings and shall record the use of all proxy votes.

TREASURER: The Treasurer shall, under the direction of the Committee, be responsible for managing the financial affairs of the Association in accordance with Article 7 of the Constitution. At all Committee meetings s/he shall present a written report to the Meeting of the state of the Association's finances.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: The Membership Secretary shall keep a register of all members of the Association. S/He shall be responsible for replying to correspondence received. S/He shall ensure that members are kept informed of the Association's activities. S/He shall issue membership cards to new members and shall update the cards of existing members.

1.2 The Committee may from time to time allocate additional functions to any Committee member.

1.3. In the event of an Honorary Officer being, for any reason, unable to perform his/her duties the Committee shall appoint a replacement for as long as is necessary.

1.4 Nominations for election to all positions on the Committee shall be taken at a General Meeting. Each of the Honorary Officer positions shall be filled by a separate election in the order as listed in Standing Order 1.1. and each election shall be completed prior to taking nominations for the next election. Unsuccessful candidates in any election shall be eligible to stand in any subsequent election. The remaining positions shall be filled in one further election. Where the number of nominations does not exceed the number of positions, those who are nominated shall be deemed to be elected.

1.5. Where the number of nominations exceeds the number of positions, an election shall be held by show of hands, except where a secret ballot is requested by a member. Each member present, as defined in Article 5(D) of the Constitution, shall receive a ballot paper on which the names of his/her preferred candidate(s), not to exceed the number of positions on the Committee, shall be written. The Meeting shall appoint tellers, who shall allocate one vote to each name written on the ballot papers. The candidates with the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. In the event of a tied vote between two or more candidates the outcome shall be decided by drawing lots.

2. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

2.1. Committee meetings shall be held not less than three times in any one year.

2.2. All Committee members shall be notified of meetings in advance of the meeting, stating place, time, and date.

2.3. Meetings shall be chaired by the President. If s/he is absent the Committee shall elect a Chair for the duration of the meeting.

2.4. All decisions taken at meetings shall be recorded in the Minutes.

2.5. At every meeting the Minutes of the last meeting shall be read out. If all members present are satisfied that the minutes contained therein are a true and accurate account they shall be deemed passed and shall be signed by the Chair of the Meeting. If any member is not satisfied, his/her views shall be noted in the Minutes before they are signed.

2.6. A diagonal line shall be drawn between each entry in the Minutes.

2.7. All decisions concerning the business of the Association shall be taken at properly constituted meetings, otherwise such decisions shall be void.

2.8. In the event of a tied vote at a Committee meeting the Chair shall have a casting vote.

3. ANNUAL AND EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS:

3.1. The President shall chair the meeting. If s/he is absent the Meeting shall elect a Chair. S/He will call the meeting to order, having allowed a reasonable time, not exceeding thirty minutes from the time stated, for a quorum to be present if necessary.

3.2. The meeting shall start with the Chair's address and, except in the case of an Extraordinary General Meeting, shall be followed by reports from the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Membership Secretary, and any other reports deemed necessary.

3.3. Motions shall then be taken in order. A reasonable time to discuss each motion shall be allowed by the Chair. The Chair will then call for a vote to be taken before moving on to the next motion.

3.4. All motions, amendments to motions and nominations for the Committee or any sub-committee must have a proposer and seconder before being put to a vote. Amendments to motions must be in accordance with the original intent of the motion.

3.5. Unless the Meeting decides otherwise, or unless precluded by the Constitution or Standing Orders, voting on all matters shall be by show of hands and shall be counted and recorded.

3.6. Proxy votes shall be permitted at all General Meetings only where a member is unable to attend and shall be subject to the following conditions:

3.6.1. The maximum number of proxy forms that can be presented at a General Meeting by any member is two.

3.6.2. Each proxy vote shall be worth one vote.

3.6.3. A proxy form shall not be valid unless it contains the name and signature of the member giving the proxy and is in the following written format:

" I _____, being a fully paid up member of the Irish Naturist Association, give my proxy vote to _____ to be cast on my behalf at the Annual / Extraordinary General Meeting to be held on _____.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____ "

3.6.4. Each proxy shall be subject to verification by the Secretary or other Committee member appointed for that purpose. The Committee may at its discretion choose to verify the validity of any proxy vote.

3.6.5. A proxy vote shall not be cast unless the person giving the proxy and the person casting the proxy vote are fully paid up members.

3.6.6. All proxy votes must be given to the Secretary or appointed Committee member prior to the commencement of voting at any General Meeting.

3.6.7. In the event of a dispute regarding the validity of a proxy the decision of the Committee shall be final. In the event of a proxy vote being declared invalid the Committee shall examine the effect of the exercise of the invalid vote on decisions of the General Meeting. If the vote had a material effect of the outcome of a vote the Committee shall rectify the matter and shall notify all members.

3.6.8. The use of each proxy vote shall be recorded by the Secretary.

3.6.9. A proxy form shall be sent to each member with all Notices of a General or Extraordinary General Meeting.

3.7. All motions on the Agenda shall, unless withdrawn by the proposer, be put to a vote.

3.9. At the conclusion of voting on motions the Chair shall call for nominations for election to the Committee in accordance with Standing Orders 1.3. and 1. 4. After the election of the Committee and of any sub Committees the Chair shall call for any other business to be discussed. The Chair shall then bring the Meeting to a close.

3.10 In the event of a dispute regarding procedures, or regarding the interpretation of the Constitution or of Standing Orders, the decision of the Committee shall be final.

4. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

4.1. The Association shall not pay remuneration to any Committee member for Committee work done.

4.2. Authorised expenses incurred by a Committee member on behalf of the Association shall be reimbursed. Details of all such reimbursed expenses shall be shown in the Association's Accounts.

5. TRAVEL:

5.1. The Committee is empowered to send representatives to events or meetings outside Ireland to conduct the business of the Association or to further its aims, subject to the approval of a General Meeting and in accordance with budgetary projections.

6. MEMBERSHIP:

6.1. All applications for membership shall be made on the prescribed Application Form and shall be accompanied by the prescribed membership fee and two passport sized photographs or electronic photos of each adult applicant. The standard membership fee shall be €55 for the first year of membership and €50 for the second and subsequent years of continuous membership. The membership fee of any member or applicant who is over the age of 65 on January 1st of the appropriate year shall be €40. The membership fee of any member joining for the first time after the beginning of a year may be reduced on a pro rata basis in the following year on renewal of membership. The membership fee for members under the age of 25 shall be €20. The membership fee for members living outside the island of Ireland shall be €20.

6.2. Except as provided for in these Standing Orders, membership details shall at all times be treated by the Committee in the strictest confidence and shall not be disclosed to any person outside the Committee without their express permission. The name and address of any member who has been suspended or expelled from the Association may, in the case of serious misconduct and if the Committee sees fit, be advised to the International Naturist Federation and to other national naturist federations.

6.3. All members of the Association shall respect the confidentiality of their fellow members and shall not disclose details regarding the identity of the Association's members without the express permission of the members concerned. Members shall conduct themselves at all Association events in a reasonable manner. Any breach of these rules shall render a member liable to suspension or expulsion from the Association in accordance with Article 3 of the Constitution. This provision shall not prevent members authorised by the Committee from giving general information, where required, regarding the Association.

6.3.1. Photographs, film or video recordings of individuals or groups at all INA events shall not be taken or made without the express permission of all persons concerned.

6.4. The Committee shall have the power to waive or reduce the membership fee in case of financial hardship or for other good reason. Any member whose membership fee has been reduced or waived shall nevertheless be regarded as a fully paid up member of the Association.

7. AFFILIATED GROUPS AND CLUBS:

7.1. Any group or club wishing to be affiliated to the Association shall conform to such terms and conditions as may be laid down in the Constitution and in Appendix A of Standing Orders or as specified by the Committee. In particular, the Committee shall be satisfied that the aims of any such group or club are fully in accordance with the ideals of the Association as set out in the Constitution.

7.2. The Committee may withdraw affiliation status from any group or club if it considers that this would be in the best interests of the Association. The same procedures and right of appeal as apply to individual members under Article 3 of the Constitution shall apply to the group or club concerned.

8. GENERAL MATTERS:

8.1. Amendments to Standing Orders shall be made by majority vote at a General Meeting.

8.2. A copy of the Constitution and Standing Orders shall be issued to all members of the Association. Details of all amendments, additions and deletions shall be notified to members.

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APPENDIX A

AFFILIATION OF CLUBS AND GROUPS

1. RULES

A Club or Group seeking affiliation to the Association shall be required to:

- 1.1 Subscribe fully to the aims of the Association.
- 1.2. Submit its Constitution and Rules of Membership for approval by the Committee of the Association.
- 1.3. Have an elected Committee of at least three members.
- 1.4. Require that all its adult members be members of the Association.
- 1.5. Maintain proper financial records.
- 1.6. Hold an Annual General Meeting.

2. ENTITLEMENTS

A Club or Group affiliated to the Association shall, at the discretion of the Committee, be entitled to:

- 2.1. Financial assistance by way of loan or grant.
- 2.2. Retain a portion of the Association's membership fee paid by its members.
- 2.3. Advice and assistance in the administration and organisation of the Club or Group.
- 2.4. Public Liability Insurance cover for organised naturist events.
- 2.5. Access, through the Association, to any relevant funds of the International Naturist Federation.
- 2.7. Liase, through the Association, with the International Naturist Federation.