

Rules of the Royal Hong Kong Police Association

1. TITLE

The Association shall be known as the Royal Hong Kong Police Association, hereinafter referred to as the “Association”.

2. OBJECTS

- (i) To perpetuate friendships formed through service or association with the Royal Hong Kong Police Force, and to act in the mutual interest of Members.
- (ii) To raise, maintain and administer a Welfare Fund for the benefit of Members and the Widows of Members.
- (iii) To fund and maintain such projects and memorials as may be appropriate.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- (i) Membership is open to officers serving or retired from the Royal Hong Kong Police Force, and to their sons and daughters over the age of eighteen, and to persons who have had such association with that Force or who have had such service with the Government of Hong Kong as to warrant the Committee approving their application for membership.
- (ii) Widows and widowers of deceased Members shall be invited to become Associate Members. As such they will have no power to vote, but they will not be precluded from full membership if they so desire.
- (iii) All applications for membership shall be approved by the Committee.
- (iv) Any applicant feeling aggrieved at being refused membership by the Committee may appeal in writing through the Secretary, to the next General Meeting where any decision then made will be final.
- (v) The Committee may at their discretion require the resignation of, or expel any Member who in their opinion is unfit to remain a member.
- (vi) Any Member dealt with under Sub-Section (v) above may appeal in writing and through the Secretary to the next General Meeting for reinstatement and the decision taken at that meeting will be final.
- (vii) Upon the recommendation of the Committee and with the approval of the majority of Members present at a General Meeting, a Member may be granted honorary life membership.

4. OFFICERS

- (i) The Officers of the Association will be as follows;
President

- Vice Presidents
- Members of the Committee
- (ii) The President and Vice Presidents will be elected at a General Meeting of the Association. Their tenure of office shall be indefinite.
- (iii) The Committee shall comprise;
 - Chairman
 - Secretary
 - Assistant Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Welfare Officer
 - News Editor
 - Archivist
 - Six Members representing the interests of resident members in England and Wales.
 - One Member representing the interests of resident members in Scotland.
 - One Member representing the interests of resident members in Eire and Northern Ireland.
 - One Member representing the interests of resident members in Australasia, less New Zealand.
 - One Member representing the interests of resident members in New Zealand.
 - One Member representing the interests of resident members in Hong Kong.
 - One Member representing the interests of resident members in North America.
- (iv) The Committee will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. Retiring Committee Members will be eligible for re-election.
- (v) Officers of the Association will be paid nominal expenses when attending meetings on a scale as approved by the Committee and endorsed at the next following Annual General Meeting.

5. ORGANISATION

- (i) The affairs of the Association will be conducted by the Committee.
- (ii) Vacancies arising during the course of the year may be filled by nominees of the Committee.
- (iii) The Committee will meet at such times and place as it determines but this will not be less than twice each financial year.
- (iv) Five Members will form a quorum.
- (v) Whenever it happens that votes cast on any issue by ballot or otherwise, be equally divided, the Chairman shall have the casting vote.
- (vi) The Committee shall have the power to appoint, and define the terms of reference, of any sub-committee considered necessary.
- (vii) The Committee shall perform any other duties which may be delegated to it from time to time.

6. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The fee for Life Membership will be fixed annually at the Annual General Meeting.

7. FINANCIAL YEAR

The financial year will run from 1st April to the following 31st March.

8. GENERAL MEETINGS

- (i) The Annual General Meeting will be held each year at a time and place decided by the Committee.
- (ii) Any ten Members may call an Extraordinary General Meeting. Notice must be given to the Secretary in writing with full reasons. A meeting will then be convened at a time and place decided by the Committee at which only the business for which the meeting has been convened may be discussed.
- (iii) A minimum of twenty one days notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting must be given to all members resident in the United Kingdom and Eire.

9. ALTERATION TO RULES

These Rules may not be amended in any way except with the consent of at least two thirds of the voting Members present at any properly constituted General Meeting of the Association.

10. SECRETARY'S DUTIES

- (i) To keep a record of the names and addresses of all Members.
- (ii) To convene, and keep minutes, of all Meetings.
- (iii) To prepare an Annual Report on the year's workings for the consideration of the Committee for presentation to Members at the next Annual General Meeting.
- (iv) To be responsible under the general direction of the Committee for the correspondence of the Association.

11. TREASURER'S DUTIES

- (i) To ensure that the funds of the Association are maintained and disbursed by the Committee in accordance with the provisions of these rules and that no financial liability may be incurred or payment made except under a general or specific directive of the Committee.
- (ii) To receive and issue receipts for all monies paid to the Association from whatever source including money received for welfare purposes.
- (iii) To keep a Receipts and Payments Account for the General Fund of the Association and to prepare an Annual Statement of this account, together with a report on the finances of the Association for the consideration of the Committee and presentation to Members at the next Annual General Meeting.

12. WELFARE OFFICER'S DUTIES

- (i) To take action at his discretion on any matter he considers as falling under the heading of "welfare", and report all such cases to the Committee at its next meeting.
- (ii) To report on the welfare activities of the Association for presentation to Members at the next Annual General Meeting.

13. COLOURS OF THE ASSOCIATION

By kind permission of the Commissioner of Police, Hong Kong, the Association is authorised to use the tie and badge of the Royal Hong Kong Police Force with the lettering R.H.K.P.A. in Old English under the badge.