

٠٣٦٤.٠٣.٠٠٠٣

قوانين جمعية صليب فكتوريا وصليب جورج

وهي القوانين وثيقة مطبوعة باللغة الإنجليزية، تتكون من ٢٢ صفحة،
وتتضمن القوانين واللوائح الداخلية لجمعية صليب فكتوريا وصليب جورج،
ومحاضرها وغيرها. التي تنظم أعضاء وإدارة الجمعية والاجتماعات



THE RULES OF
THE VICTORIA CROSS
AND GEORGE CROSS
ASSOCIATION

THE VICTORIA CROSS AND GEORGE CROSS ASSOCIATION

Patron:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Room 04
Archway Block South,
Old Admiralty Building,
Whitehall,
London, SW1A 2BE

The original Rules were approved at the First General Meeting of the Association on 24th July, 1958.

In 1961 George Cross holders were admitted to full Membership and the name of the Association changed to The Victoria Cross and George Cross Association. The necessary revision of the Rules were agreed by the Committee on 17th September, 1962, and confirmed at the 4th General Meeting on 16th July 1964.

Further minor amendments were approved at the 10th General Meeting on 22nd April, 1976.

(Sgd.) B. C. G. PLACE,
Chairman.

THE VICTORIA CROSS AND GEORGE CROSS ASSOCIATION

RULES

INTERPRETATION

1. In these Rules:-

- (A) "the Association" means the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association with its Headquarters in London;
- (B) "Member" means any surviving holder of the Victoria Cross and George Cross from time to time except any holder who has intimated to the Association that he does not wish to be, or to remain, a Member;
- (C) "Overseas Member" means a Member who is not usually and normally resident in the United Kingdom;

- (D) "Headquarters" means the Headquarters of the Association in London referred to in Rule 3;
- (E) "The Rules" means these Rules as they may be validly revised, modified, varied or altered from time to time;
- (F) "the United Kingdom" means Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
- (G) words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and *vice versa*;
- (H) words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender;
- (I) "year" means a calendar year and "month" means a calendar month.

PATRON

- 2. There shall be a Patron of the Association.

2

ADMINISTRATION

- 3. The Association shall maintain a headquarters in London to provide a Secretariat for its members and Committee.
The Secretariat will—
 - (A) maintain a record of all holders of the Victoria Cross and George Cross so that all cases of hardship can be brought to the notice of the Committee
 - (B) act on the Committee's instructions in carrying out the charitable objects of the Association as set out in Rule 4.
 - (C) facilitate the attendance of the members at the Biennial General Meeting and in particular those who come from overseas.
 - (D) carry out the day-to-day administration of the Association.

OBJECTS

- 4. The objects of the Association are—
 - (A) to establish a focus so that holders of the Victoria Cross and the George Cross living in all parts of the world can communicate

3

in their mutual interests and support, and arrange meetings and reunions as may be desirable;

- (B) to arrange the administration of such funds as may be available to the Association for the benefit of the holders and their dependents and to bring cases of need to the attention of appropriate bodies;
- (C) to cement the brotherhood of the holders of the Victoria Cross and George Cross throughout the world and thereby through their own unity and strength make some contribution towards the maintenance of world peace.

MEMBERS

- 5. The Members of the Association shall consist of those persons who qualify under the definition of "Member" under Rule 1(B).

PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

- 6. The Executive Committee may appoint a President and Vice-Presidents who need not be eligible as Members. Any person appointed

4

President or Vice-President shall hold office until he dies or resigns.

OFFICERS

- 7. The Officers to be appointed at each Biennial General Meeting from amongst the Members shall be as follows—
 - (i) The Chairman of the Executive Committee.
 - (ii) Two Vice-Chairmen one of whom (so far as practicable) shall be an Overseas Member.
 - (iii) The Honorary Treasurer.
 - (iv) The Honorary Secretary.

TRUSTEES

- 8. All real property belonging to the Association shall be purchased in, or transferred into, the names of Trustees, who shall also be empowered to hold such personal property belonging to the Association as the Executive Committee shall from time to time deem convenient to transfer to the Trustees. The Trustees shall never be less than two in number. The Executive Committee shall be empowered

5

to add to the number of Trustees (provided any prescribed maximum be not thereby exceeded) and to fill any vacancy caused by the death or retirement of any Trustee. A Trustee need not be a Member of the Association. The Executive Committee may from time to time call upon the Trustees to execute, at the expense of the Association, a Declaration of Trust in respect of all or any of the property they hold upon trust on behalf of the Association.

AUDITORS

9. The Auditor appointed by the Committee to audit the accounts of the Association shall hold office until he dies, resigns or becomes incapable of acting or until a resolution removing him from Office is carried at any subsequent General Meeting. An Auditor need not be eligible to be a Member and more than one may be appointed to act jointly. A firm of professional Accountants may be appointed Auditors and if necessary remunerated out of the funds of the Association.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

10. The Executive Committee shall be elected at a Biennial General Meeting and will remain

6

in Office until the next Biennial General Meeting as provided for in Rules 32-38. It shall consist of not more than 25 persons (who shall be known as "the Elected Members") of whom, so far as practicable, not less than 10 shall be Overseas Members. Those who are *ex-officio* entitled to serve pursuant to Rule 38 and the Elected Members shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Association. The Executive Committee may co-opt Members to sit with and to be Members of the Executive Committee.

GENERAL MEETINGS

11. The Association shall hold a General Meeting, to be known as the Biennial General Meeting of Members, every alternate year on the occasion of the Reunion in London. All other General Meetings shall be called Extraordinary.

12. The Executive Committee may call an Extraordinary Meeting whenever it thinks fit.

13. The Executive Committee shall also convene an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held within three months of receipt of a Notice in writing addressed to the Chairman or the Honorary Secretary at Headquarters requisi-

7

tioning a General Meeting signed personally by not less than 20 Members. Such Notice shall be invalid unless (A) it also states precisely any resolution it is desired shall be considered by such Extraordinary General Meeting and (B) the Requisitionists deposit with the Executive Committee forthwith upon demand a sum sufficient to pay the Air Mail Charges of sending the Notice to all Members abroad and the Overseas Members.

NOTICES OF GENERAL MEETINGS

14. The President, the Vice-President, the Trustees, the Officers, the Auditor and all Members shall be entitled to receive notice of every General Meeting whether Biennial or Extraordinary.

15. Except with the sanction in writing of the President (or if there is no President, the Chairman of the Executive Committee) no General Meeting of the Association shall be convened upon any notice shorter than a month after the date of despatch from the United Kingdom of formal Notice. Such Notice shall be sent by Air Mail (A) to all Members who have notified to Headquarters a temporary

8

address outside Europe and (B) to all Overseas Members who normally reside outside Europe. But the accidental omission to give such Notice to or the non-receipt of such Notice by any Member entitled to receive the same shall not invalidate any resolution passed at any such Meeting.

16. It shall not be obligatory to give or send notice of any General Meeting to any Overseas Member, who has not notified Headquarters of an address to which Notices shall be sent.

17. Every Notice of any General Meeting shall specify the place, the day and the hour of meeting and in the case of special business the nature of such business.

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

18. The President, if he attends, shall take the Chair at General Meetings but if he is not present the Chairman shall take the Chair or if he also is not present a Vice-Chairman shall take the Chair or failing him a Member elected by the Meeting shall preside. The Chairman who presides shall have power to adjourn a General Meeting for a reasonable period.

19. No business shall be transacted at any

9

General Meeting unless and until there are at least 10 Members present.

20. All business shall be deemed special that is transacted at an Extraordinary Meeting and all business transacted at a Biennial General Meeting shall also be deemed special with the exception of the consideration of the Accounts for the preceding two years, the consideration of the Reports of the Auditor and the Executive Committee, the election of any new President, and the election of the Officers and the Elected Members of the Executive Committee who retire by rotation and the appointment of the Auditor.

21. At any General Meeting of the Association a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands and if there is an equality of votes the Chairman of the Meeting shall be entitled to a second or casting vote. The President and Vice-Presidents shall be entitled to vote at General Meetings. Votes may only be given personally and not by proxy.

22. A declaration by the Chairman of the Meeting that a resolution has been carried, or carried by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority, and an entry to that effect in the Minutes of the Meetings of the Association shall be conclusive evidence of

10

the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

23. (A) The Executive Committee may meet for the despatch of business and adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings and proceedings as they think fit and may determine the quorum necessary for the transaction of business and the notice if any which is to be given of any such meeting. Until otherwise determined 4 members of the Executive Committee shall form a quorum.

(B) It shall not be obligatory to give notice of Meetings of the Executive Committee to any member thereof who is not normally resident in the United Kingdom unless he has notified the Honorary Secretary of a temporary address therein. Provided nevertheless if in the opinion of the Chairman any major business is to be discussed at a forthcoming meeting of the Executive Committee it shall be his responsibility to ensure that, if practicable having regard to time and any other factor, notice of such meeting shall be sent to all members of the Executive

11

Committee (including those who normally reside outside the United Kingdom) together with an intimation of the general nature of such major business. A member of the Executive Committee unable for any reason to be present at any meeting thereof shall be sent a copy of the Minutes of the said meeting.

24. Questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes and in case of an equality of votes the Chairman of the Meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

25. The procedure laid down in Rule 18 for determining who is to preside at General Meetings shall also apply to Meetings of the Executive Committee.

POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

26. The Management of the business of the Association shall be vested in the Executive Committee who, in addition to the powers and authorities conferred upon them by the Rules, shall have power to do all things necessary or expedient for the accomplishment of the aims and objects of the Association or which may be implied or deduced therefrom and shall also

12

have power to do all such acts and things as may be exercised or done by the Association and are not by the Rules expressly directed or required to be exercised or done by the Association in General Meeting.

27. Without prejudice to the general powers conferred by Rule 26 or to any other powers conferred by the Rules the Executive Committee shall have power to appoint and at their discretion remove or suspend such managers, clerks, agents and employees for permanent or special services to the Association as may from time to time be thought fit and to determine their powers and duties and to fix their salaries or emoluments and to require security in such instances and to such amount as may be thought fit. Provided always that this Rule shall confer no power upon the Executive Committee to remove the Auditor of the Association.

28. The Executive Committee may delegate any of its powers to sub-Committees consisting of 2 or more Members of the Executive Committee. Every such sub-Committee shall in the exercise of their powers so delegated conform to any regulations that may from time to time be imposed upon them by the Executive Com-

13

mittee. The Chairman of the Executive Committee shall be an *ex-officio* Member of every such sub-Committee.

29. The Executive Committee may appoint any Member in the place of any Officer (or any person authorised in the Rules in the place of an Auditor) dying, retiring or becoming incapable of acting but any Officer (or Auditor) so appointed shall only hold office until the next Biennial General Meeting after his appointment but shall be eligible for re-election. Subject to any direction given by the Members at a General Meeting the Executive Committee shall have power to fix and pay the remuneration of any professional Auditor.

30. The Executive Committee may appoint any Member to fill a casual vacancy in or as an addition to the Elected Members but so that the total of the Elected Members shall not exceed the maximum number under the provisions of Rule 10 and any person so appointed shall hold office only until the next following Biennial General Meeting and shall then be eligible for re-election.

31. The continuing Members of the Executive Committee may act notwithstanding any vacan-

cies in that body but in case the number of Elected Members thereof shall at any time be reduced below 12 the Executive Committee shall be at liberty to act only for the purpose of filling up vacancies amongst the Elected Members or convening a General Meeting of the Association.

RETIREMENT OF ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BY ROTATION

32. At each Biennial General Meeting of the Association one-third of the Elected Members still in office or if the number of such Members is not a multiple of three then the number nearest to but not exceeding one-third shall retire from office.

33. The one-third or other number to retire at each Biennial General Meeting shall be those who have been longest in office. As between two or more who have been in office an equal length of time the Elected Member to retire shall in default of agreement between them be determined by lot. The length of time an Elected Member has been in office shall be computed from his last election or appointment where

he has previously vacated office. A retiring Elected Member shall be eligible for re-election.

34. The Members at any Biennial General Meeting at which any Elected Members retire in manner aforesaid shall fill up the vacated offices by electing a like number of persons to be Elected Members of the Executive Committee.

35. If at any General Meeting at which an election of Elected Members ought to take place the places of the retiring Elected Members are not filled up the retiring Elected Members or such of them as have not had their places filled up shall if willing continue in office until the next Biennial General Meeting of the Association.

36. The Members in General Meeting may from time to time increase or reduce the number of the Elected Members and may also determine in what rotation such increased or reduced number is to go out of office.

37. No Member not being a retiring Officer or Elected Member unless recommended by the Executive Committee for election shall be eligible for election as an Officer or Elected Member (as the case may be) unless he or some Member

intending to propose him has at least one month before the Biennial General Meeting left at Headquarters a notice in writing duly signed signifying his candidature for the office or the intention of such Member to propose him.

38. The President, Vice-Presidents and the Officers from time to time shall be *ex-officio* members of the Executive Committee with power to vote at Meetings.

VACATION OF MEMBERSHIP

39. Any Member shall cease to be a Member of the Association—

- (A) if by notice in writing to the Association he resigns;
- (B) if the Association by a majority of three-fourths of such of its Members present at a General Meeting duly convened for the purpose shall resolve that such Member do resign from the Association.

VACATION OF OFFICE

40. Any Officer or Elected Member shall vacate office—

- (A) if by notice in writing to the Association he resigns;

- (B) if the Association by a majority of three-fourths of such of its Members present at a General Meeting duly convened for the purpose shall resolve that such Officer or Elected Member do (i) retire from office and/or (ii) resign from the Association;
- (C) if he shall be adjudged bankrupt or shall make any composition or arrangement with his creditors, under the provisions of any Statute, he shall *ipso facto* cease to be an Officer or Elected Member of the Association; but upon application being made by such Officer or Elected Member to the Executive Committee stating the cause of such adjudication in bankruptcy, making of any composition or arrangement or prohibition as aforesaid as the case may be, such Officer or Elected Member may be permitted to be restored to his office by the Executive Committee;
- (D) if he is found a lunatic or if any Order in respect of him is made by any Court having jurisdiction in lunacy;

Provided that a member who by notice in writing

18

resigns his office as an Officer or as an Elected Member (as the case may require) shall not thereby be deemed to have resigned his Membership unless the contrary appears from the said notice.

REPORTS, ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

41. The Executive Committee shall cause true accounts to be kept of all receipts and expenditure and assets and liabilities of the Association and at every Biennial General Meeting the Executive Committee shall lay before the Meeting a Balance Sheet and Account audited by the Auditor of the Association.

42. The Executive Committee shall lay before every Biennial General Meeting a report on the state and condition of the Association and its work and shall cause Minutes to be kept of all General and Executive Committee Meetings.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

43. When any proposal to be considered at a General Meeting of the Association is expressed in the Rules or deemed to be special business the Notice convening the meeting to consider such special business shall specify the general nature

19

of that business and such proposal will only become effective if passed by a majority of not less than three-fourths of such Members who are present at the Meeting and vote.

MONEYS FOR INVESTMENT

44. Moneys belonging to the Association transferred by the Executive Committee to the Trustees under Rule 8 shall be invested by the Trustees in their joint names in the purchase or at interest upon the security of such stocks, funds, shares, securities or other property and investments of whatsoever nature and wheresoever and whether real or personal as the Trustees shall in their absolute and uncontrolled discretion think fit to the intent that the Trustees shall have the same full unrestricted power of retaining and transposing investments in all respects as if they were the sole beneficial owner thereof. The Trustees will from time to time confer with the Executive Committee upon investment policy and afford the Executive Committee all information about investments belonging to the Association that they may reasonably require.

INDEMNITY

45. The President, Vice-Presidents, the

20

Trustees, the Officers and every member of the Executive Committee from time to time shall be indemnified by the Association against all costs losses or expenses which he may become liable to by reason of his duty and any paid officer or employee of the Association shall be similarly indemnified against any costs losses or expenses which he may incur or become liable to by reason of any act or thing done by him in the discharge of any duty performed for and with the authority of a General Meeting of the Association or of the Executive Committee.

DISSOLUTION

46. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Association there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts, liabilities and obligations, any property whatsoever the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the Members of the Association or any of them but shall (subject to any special trusts affecting the same) be given or transferred to such Charities and in such proportions as shall be determined by the Executive Committee at or before the time of dissolution or in default thereof by a Judge of

21

the Chancery Division of the Supreme Court of
Judicature (England).

ALTERATION OF THE RULES

47. The Rules or any of them may at any
time and from time to time be added to,
abrogated, or varied by a resolution passed at a
General Meeting duly convened for that purpose
by a majority of not less than three-quarters of
the Members present and voting.

