



## National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand.

### THE AMENDED CONSTITUTION.

The following is the constitution, with recent amendments, of the National Association. It should be studied by all apiarists, who should become familiar with the rules and objects of the organisation:—

1. The organisation shall be known as the National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand.

2. The office of the Association shall be at Auckland, or such other place as the executive may from time to time determine.

3. The Association shall have a common seal, which shall be kept in the custody of the secretary, and shall only be affixed to documents at meetings of the executive, and the affixing of the same shall always be attested by at least three members of the executive. As regards third parties, the common seal shall be deemed to have been duly affixed if such affixing purports to be attested by three members of the executive, and that notwithstanding any invalidity in the appointment of any members of the executive or any irregularity in the meeting at which same was affixed or in any other matter connected with the affixing of the same; and as regards third parties, the signatures of the persons purporting to attest the affixing of the seal shall be sufficient evidence that those persons are members of the executive.

4. The object of the Association shall be the improvement of the beekeeping industry, furthering the interests and the prosperity of the beekeepers throughout the Dominion.

5. Membership shall be extended to any beekeeper who is in accord with the aims and objects of the Association, and who pays an annual subscription on the following scale:—

Up to 15 col.	. . .	5/-
Up to 50 „	. . .	10/-
Up to 100 „	. . .	15/-
Up to 200 „	. . .	20/-

and 5/- for every additional 100 or portion thereof. Hon. members' subscriptions shall be £1/1/- per annum.

6. Subscriptions to the Association are due and payable on April 1st in each year, and must be paid within two calendar months from that date. Members who do not resign by notice under their hand on or before May 31st in each year shall be deemed to be members of the Association for that year, and their subscriptions shall be due and payable.

7. District branches of the Association may be formed where there are seven or more beekeepers desirous of forming a branch, such branch to be known and to work under the name and title of the National Beekeepers Association, New Zealand, \_\_\_\_\_ Branch.

Branches affiliated to District Branches may be formed with three or more members, to work under the title of \_\_\_\_\_ Local Branch of the \_\_\_\_\_ District Branch.

(a) The branch secretary shall collect all fees from members of his branch, and shall remit the same to the general secretary at the end of each quarter. The general secretary shall immediately pay to all branch secretaries a sum of money, being not less than 60 per cent of the money collected by the branch.

(b) The branches may be paid a further sum or sums of money should they at any time be in need of assistance to carry out any special work of which the National executive approves.

(c) The branches may also apply to the National Executive for an advance to meet their current expenses, and the National Executive shall advance such sums of money on request.

8. Every beekeeper is advised where possible to belong to a branch association, and pay his fees thereto. He may, however, if he think fit, pay his fees to the general secretary, who shall forthwith advise the branch secretary of the district in which he resides that this has been done. Those who pay their fees direct to the general secretary shall not be deemed members of a branch until they make formal application to become such.

9. It is specially provided that any existing association may automatically become a district branch of the National by the passing of a formal resolution adopting the national constitution subject to the provision of clause 7.

10. Prior to the annual meeting at which they are to be elected, every branch or member paying his fees direct to the general secretary may nominate a representative to serve on the executive, which shall consist of not more than six members, including president and vice-president. From the nominations so made the meeting shall elect four members. Should not sufficient nominations be received the quota shall be made good from members attending the annual general meeting. The secretary-treasurer shall be a permanent officer, his appointment remuneration and removal being entirely in the hands of the executive, subject to three months' notice on either side. The officers of the executive shall consist of a president, vice-presi-

dent, and secretary-treasurer; the last-named, however, if thought desirable, may be appointed by the executive from outside the Association. Should any vacancy occur during the year, the branch from which it occurs shall be asked to nominate another member. The duties of the executive shall be: The general control of the Association's business in furthering the interests of the Association; the publication of reports; and any other business it may be deemed advisable in the general interests of members.

11. The president shall preside at all meetings of the executive, and all cheques shall be signed by the Secretary and one member of the Executive.

12. The vice-president shall occupy the chair in the absence of the president, and in the event of the office of president becoming vacant he shall act until a new president is appointed.

13. The general secretary-treasurer shall collect all money due to the Association, except as is provided in section (a), clause 7; keep such books and accounts as the executive may require; countersign cheques; conduct the correspondence; keep the minutes of the meetings, and do any other such work as is necessary or the executive may direct; he shall also write the annual report and prepare the balance-sheet, which must be signed by the auditor.

14. The general secretary shall forward to the branch secretaries reports of the meetings of the executive, and the district secretaries shall forward for the information of the National executive a report of the meetings of the branches, and a copy of the annual report and balance-sheet. He shall also supply the branches from time to time with a summary of the business that is being transacted by the executive.

15. All branches shall be charged for stationery supplied, at cost price.

16. The annual general meeting of members shall be held in June, or as near thereto as may be deemed advisable, for the purpose of receiving the report and balance-sheet, the election of office-bearers, and the appointment of auditors for the ensuing year, the discussion of any subjects of interest to the beekeepers which may be brought forward, and general.

17. At the annual or special general meetings delegates may represent the district branch and vote on the following terms:—

(1) Each branch is to have voting power on the following basis:—One vote for each 5/- subscription, or portion thereof paid by the branch to the General Secretary during the year. The official delegate shall exercise the total voting power of the branch. In the event of the branch not being able to send one of its own members as a delegate to the conference, it may appoint any other member of the National to vote.

(2) Every delegate shall be entitled to exercise his voting power as his judgment dictates, after hearing the discussion in open conference.

(3) The delegate's certificate from a branch must state:

(a) The number of members who are financial; (b) the total amount of subscriptions paid by the branch to the General Secretary during the year; (c) the number of votes to which the delegate is entitled. The certificate to be signed by the branch president and secretary.

(4) Members of the National who are not members of a branch, shall have the same voting powers, i.e., one vote for every 5/- subscription paid, and such votes may be exercised by a duly authorised proxy.

(5) At all general meetings of the Association all matters shall be decided upon the popular vote of members attending the conference or meetings, provided that any delegate at any time may ask that the matter be decided upon the delegates' votes only.

18. This constitution may be amended at any annual or special general meeting called for that purpose, provided that sixty clear days' notice of the proposed amendment be given by circular calling the meeting to each member of the Association and to the district branches.

19. It is specially provided that should any question arise which in the opinion of the executive should be decided by the members, they shall issue to each member of the Association and to the secretary of all local branches, a clear statement of the position, and provide a voting paper so that members may vote on the question by mail. The voting shall close not less than thirty days from the date notices are posted. The voting paper shall state the date on which the poll shall close.

20. Dissolution.—The Association may be dissolved at any special general meeting called for that purpose, provided that all the liabilities of the Association have been discharged; two-thirds of the members present, rule 17 applying, the meeting may resolve that the Association be dissolved as from the date named in such resolution. The property and the funds of the Association after such dissolution shall be divided amongst the financial members of the Association in the proportion of the fees they have paid during the year that the dissolution takes place.

A. ECROYD, Secretary,

11 Thornton Street, Christchurch.

1st July, 1927.