

**RULES
FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF
THE LIBERTARIAN ALLIANCE**

9 Poland Street, London W1V 3DG, England, UK

(As adopted at the first AGM held on Sunday 22nd September 1985
in Conway Hall, London WC1.)

NAME & PURPOSE

1. The name of the organisation shall be the Libertarian Alliance (in these Rules referred to as "the LA").
 2. The purpose of the LA shall be to spread libertarian ideas consistent with the following principles:
 - (i) The right of all persons to life, liberty, and justly acquired property.
 - (ii) The voluntary exchange of all goods and services.
 - (iii) Each individual's liberty to pursue his or her chosen lifestyle and to promote it by peaceful persuasion, but not to impose it forcibly on anyone else.
 - (iv) Elimination of coercive intervention by the state, the foremost violator of liberty.
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MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIBERSHIP

3. The LA accepts both members and subscribers.
4. Membership shall be open to all who accept the principles of the LA (as stated in Rule 2), pay the annual membership fee, and who are deemed acceptable by the EC.
5. Subscribership is not membership. The purpose of subscribership is to allow those who do not accept the principles of the LA or who, for other reasons, do not wish to accept the full commitments of membership, to receive those publications to which their subscriptions entitle them.
6. The EC shall fix the membership fee, the subscribership fee, and all other fees and charges, and shall have liberty to readjust these fees from time to time as they see fit.

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

7.(i) If in the opinion of the the EC, by a majority of not less than three-fourths of those voting, a member:

- (a) has committed a serious breach of the Rules of the LA, or
- (b) has persistently infringed the Rules of the LA, or
- (c) has behaved in a manner seriously prejudicial to the LA's interests,

the EC may instruct the Secretary so to inform such member by letter.

(ii) Such letter shall:

- (a) specify the breach, infringement, or conduct complained of, and
- (b) invite such member either to resign or to show cause why the EC should not terminate his/her membership.

(iii) If such member shall not have communicated his/her resignation to the Secretary within fourteen days of the despatch to him/her of such letter, the Secretary shall convene a special meeting of the EC for the purpose of considering whether or not to terminate his/her membership and shall give such member reasonable notice of the date, time, and place appointed for such meeting.

(iv) At such special meeting such member shall be entitled to make representations in person whether oral or written but shall not in any circumstances, even if he/she is a member of the EC:

- (a) be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum, or
- (b) be entitled to take part in the deliberations of the EC or to vote.

(v) If at such special meeting at least three-fourths of all EC members resolve to terminate such membership then:

(a) his/her membership of the LA shall be terminated forthwith, and
(b) he/she shall forfeit all privileges of a member and all rights against the LA, and
(c) he/she shall be regarded as a subscriber. No subscription money shall be returned to members reclassified as subscribers; their subscriptions are extended for an additional period, to take account of the lower subscription rate for subscribers.

(vi) In the case of termination of membership of an EC member, only one such termination of membership may be considered, and no more than one EC member may have his/her membership terminated by the EC in the period between any two consecutive AGMs.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

8. The Executive Committee (in these Rules referred to as "the EC") may do all such things and transact all such business except those which these Rules require to be done and transacted by the LA in General Meeting.

9. The EC may meet together for the despatch of business, and all EC members shall receive notice of such meeting. Questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes the motion shall be considered lost.

10. Any EC member may appoint another EC member as Special Proxy to vote on any decision. Such proxy instrument shall be in writing and shall be in the hands of the Secretary by the start of the EC meeting at which the proxy is to be used.

11. Any three EC members may, at any reasonable time, summon a meeting of the EC by notice served upon all EC members. Notice of such EC meeting shall be not less than fourteen days.

12. The EC quorum shall be four EC members.

13. The EC shall cause proper minutes to be kept of the business and proceedings transacted at meetings of the EC, of the LA generally, and of any committees of the EC. If those minutes are signed by the Chairman, or by the Chairman of the next succeeding meeting, then this shall be considered sufficient evidence of the facts stated in those minutes.

14. Should the total number of EC members fall below four members, then that EC shall have power only to call a Special General Meeting for the purpose of organising fresh EC elections.

OFFICERS & SUB-COMMITTEES

15. The Officers and sub-committees of the LA shall be appointed by the EC for such time, at such remuneration, and upon such con-

ditions as they think fit, and any Officers or sub-committees so appointed may be removed by them.

16. All EC members shall become Trustees for the private limited company known as "Libertarian Alliance Ltd".

17. In the execution of these Rules no EC member shall be liable for any loss to the property of the LA arising by reason of any improper investment made in good faith, or for the negligence or fraud of any agent employed by him or by other EC members made in good faith although the employment of such agent was not strictly necessary, or by reason of any mistake or omission made in good faith by any EC member hereof, or by reason of any other matter or thing except wilful and individual fraud, wrongdoing, or wrongful omission on the part of the EC member who is sought to be made so liable.

ELECTION OF EC MEMBERS

18. All LA members are eligible for election to the EC.

19. Nominations for election in any year shall be in writing, signed by the member, and shall be transmitted to the Secretary not later than 28 days prior to the date of the election.

20. The nomination of any person who has not paid his/her membership fee by the date of his/her nomination shall be disregarded.

21. If nominations exceed the fourteen EC vacancies then the EC shall prepare ballot papers and a ballot shall be held.

22. EC elections shall be by postal ballot and conducted by a disinterested body such as the Electoral Reform Society.

23. Notice of the nominations shall be given to each LA member at least eight clear days before the date of the ballot.

24. When ballots are held, the fourteen LA members with the most votes will then constitute the EC-elect. Members are only elected to the EC at EC elections. There shall be no co-optation of EC members.

25. EC elections shall be called at a time no earlier than 56 days and no later than 14 days prior to each and every AGM.

26. Every EC, except the first, shall hold office for a period beginning at the conclusion of business at the AGM immediately following their election, and lasting until the conclusion of business at the next succeeding AGM.

DISQUALIFICATION OF EC MEMBERS

27. The office of any EC member shall be vacated if:

- (a) by notice in writing to the LA he/she resigns his/her office, or
- (b) if he/she should cease to be a member of the LA, or
- (c) if a Special General Meeting duly called for that purpose should vote in favour of the disqualification of any member by a majority of not less than two-thirds of voting members, or
- (d) if he/she should die.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

28. The EC may invite any number of suitable persons (other than EC members) to join the Advisory Council.
29. The office of an Advisory Council member shall be vacated if:
- (a) by notice in writing to the LA he/she resigns his/her office, or
 - (b) if two-thirds of the Executive Committee deem his/her membership inappropriate, or
 - (c) if he/she should die.

INCOME

30. The income and property of the LA shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its purpose (as set forth in Rule 2) and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus, or otherwise howsoever by way of profit, to the members of the LA.

Provided that nothing herein shall prevent payment made in good faith by the LA of:

- (a) reasonable and proper remuneration to any member, officer, or servant of the LA for any services rendered to the LA, or
- (b) of interest on money lent by any member of the LA or of the EC at a reasonable and proper rate, or
- (c) of reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let by any member of the LA or of the EC, or
- (d) out-of-pocket expenses for any member of the EC.

ACCOUNTS

31. The EC shall keep proper accounts which can be inspected by all LA members.
32. At the AGM a brief up-to-date financial Report shall be given.

GENERAL MEETING

33. The Annual General Meeting of the LA shall be held annually, at a date, time, and place to be determined by the EC. Every AGM, except the first, shall be held not more than fifteen months after the holding of the last preceding AGM.

34. Notice of the date, time, and place of the AGM shall be sent to all members not later than fourteen days prior to the date of the AGM. At the same time the text of any motions to be proposed at the AGM shall also be sent to all members.

35. The business to be transacted at the AGM shall be as follows:

- (a) to elect a Chairman;
- (b) to consider and if so decided to approve the minutes of the last AGM;
- (c) to consider and if so decided to receive the Reports of finances;
- (d) to consider and vote upon motions moved in accordance with these Rules.

PROCEDURE OF AGM

36. At the AGM business under Rule 35 shall take precedence over all other business.

37. Voting upon all questions put to the AGM shall be ordinarily by show of hands, but a division or ballot shall be held at the discretion of the Chairman or on the demand of any seven members present.

38. Any question to be decided by the AGM shall be decided by a majority of members present who are entitled to vote, and who do so. If votes for and against any motion are equal, then that motion will be considered lost.

39. The Meeting shall appoint three Scrutineers who shall determine, by a majority if they do not agree, any question arising as to the number of votes on any show of hands or division or ballot or the validity or effect of any ballot paper.

40. A motion pursuant to Rule 35(d) may be proposed if notice of it has been given to the Secretary at least twenty-eight days prior to the date of the AGM.

41. No business shall be transacted at any AGM unless ten members are present except the election of a Chairman and the adjournment of the Meeting.

42. The Chairman shall adjourn the AGM if there are not at least ten members present within thirty minutes of the time fixed for the Meeting, and the Meeting itself may, at any time, vote to adjourn on a motion to that effect duly proposed and seconded.

43. If the AGM is adjourned for a period longer than fifty-six days, notice of the adjournment, specifying the date and time and place for which the Meeting is reconvened, and the business which remains to be completed, shall be sent to all members.

44. No business shall be transacted at an adjourned AGM except business left uncompleted at the time of the adjournment.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

45. The Secretary shall call a Special General Meeting upon the receipt by him/her of a written request from:

- (a) the EC, or
- (b) any fifteen members of the LA, or
- (c) the Treasurer (on matters of finance only).

Any such request shall contain the text of any motion which the person or persons making it desire to propose and shall be signed by that person or those persons.

46. Within seven days of the receipt of such request the Secretary shall send notice of the date (which shall be not more than thirty-five days from the date sent), time, and place of such Meeting, and the text of any motions to be proposed thereat with the names of those proposing them.

47. The date, time, and place shall be determined by the EC or by any officer or officers to whom they delegate their powers so to determine.

48. A Special General Meeting may be held on the same day as an AGM, and immediately before or after such AGM, subject to the provisions of these Rules.

PROCEDURE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

49. The Rules 37,38,39,41,42,43,44 shall apply in relation to a Special General Meeting as in relation with the AGM with such variations (if any) as may be necessary.

50. If a Special General Meeting is adjourned for lack of a quorum pursuant to Rules 42 and 49, and at the reconvening of such adjourned Meeting there is no quorum within thirty minutes of the time fixed therefore the motions intended to be proposed shall be deemed lost.

AMENDMENT OF RULES

51. With such consent (if any) as is by law required these Rules may be altered, varied, or rescinded by resolution carried by the requisite majority at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose.

52. The requisite majority for the purposes of Rule 51 shall be two-thirds of members who vote in favour of the motion. At this Special General Meeting members may vote by proxy.

DISSOLUTION OF THE LA

53. Should three-fourths of all EC members agree to the dissolution of the LA, then a Special General Meeting shall be called for that purpose. Should that Special General Meeting vote in favour of dissolution by a majority of three-fourths of voting members, then the LA shall be considered dissolved. At this Special General Meeting members may vote by proxy.

54. If upon the winding-up or dissolution of the LA there remains, after the satisfaction of all its liabilities and debts, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the LA, but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having a purpose and principles similar to those of the LA, and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as that imposed on the LA by virtue of Rule 30. Such institution or institutions are to be determined by the EC at or before the time of dissolution, and if and so far far as effect cannot be given to such provision, then to some charitable object.

AVAILABILITY AND APPLICATION OF RULES

55.(i) Upon approval by the EC of the application of any person to become a Member of the LA he/she shall be sent a copy of these Rules.

(ii) Upon entry of his/her name in the Register of Members a Member shall forthwith become bound by these Rules.

NOTICES

56.(i) Any notice required or authorised to be given under these Rules to any member of the LA may be given either personally or by sending it through the post in a pre-paid letter addressed to the member in question at the last address for that member appearing in the Register of Members.

(ii) Any notice sent by post as aforesaid shall be deemed to have been given on the third day following that on which the letter containing the same is put into the post.

(iii) The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting or any other matter, or the non-receipt of such notice by any person entitled to receive it, shall not invalidate any resolution passed, or proceeding adopted at any meeting.

57. Except as otherwise specified above all General Meetings shall be conducted according to Citrine's ABC of Chairmanship.