

THE CONSTITUTION OF

THE WAIKATO SCHOOLS RUGBY UNION

RULES OF THE WAIKATO SCHOOLS RUGBY UNION

1. Name

1.1 The name of the organisation is **THE WAIKATO SCHOOLS RUGBY UNION** (the “WSU”).

1.2 The office of the WSU shall be the office of the appointed Secretary of the WSU.

1.2.1 The WSU shall be affiliated to the Waikato Rugby Union and shall abide by its rules.

2. Objectives

2.1 The objectives of the WSU are:

- a. To govern Secondary Schools Rugby within the Waikato Rugby Union boundaries
- b. To promote best practise in Secondary Schools Rugby
- c. To promote and encourage participation in rugby to all. (I.e. players, coaches, administrators and referees)
- d. To ensure that NZRU rules and guidelines are followed.
- e. To proactively take ideas and views of its members.
- f. To ensure any funding issues are fairly represented.

3. Definitions

3.1 “**Representative**” means a delegate who is a member of the WSU within the classes of membership defined in clause 4.2.

“**Voting members**” means a maximum of 2 delegates from each school who is entitled to vote at any Special General Meeting pursuant to clause 4.

“**Policy**” means policy made by the WSU pursuant to clause 6.4.

3.2 Where the context permits, words referred to the singular also refer to the plural and vice versa and words importing one gender refer to the other gender.

4. Membership

- 4.1 All Post Primary Schools and District High Schools in the Waikato area are eligible.
- 4.2 All members as at 31 December 2012 shall remain members under this Constitution.
- 4.3 Each Member School will be entitled to 1 vote if their School has a 1XV entered in the current years WSU Competition and 1 vote for any other team/s entered in the current years WSU competition. (Maximum 2 votes)
- 4.4 Any new School wishing to become a member after 31 December 2012 must seek application through the WSU. Such an application must be accompanied with information regarding proposed playing colours and available grounds.
- 4.5 The school applying shall send a representative to support the application at the Special or Annual General Meeting.

5. Termination

- 5.1 Any member wishing to resign from membership of the WSU must give to the Chairman written notice of the Schools intention to resign.
- 5.2 The WSU may at any time expel any member for incapacity, misconduct, or such other conduct considered to be prejudicial to the WSU.
- 5.3 Upon resignation or expulsion all privileges of membership will terminate. Any property supplied by the WSU shall be returned to the Chairman immediately.

6. Duties and Powers

- 6.1 The Chairman shall:
- Act as an Ombudsman for members of the WSU;
 - Represent the WSU at official occasions;
 - Chair the General Meetings and Special General Meetings;
- 6.2 The WSU Executive Committee shall consist of the following;
- i. Chairman

- ii. Deputy-Chairman
 - iii. Secretary
 - iv. WRU delegate
 - v. WRU Community Engagement Manager (ex-officio)
 - b. The Executive Committee shall administer the affairs of the WSU where a decision is needed to be made before a meeting of the WSU can be called.
 - c. The WSU Executive shall be responsible for the good conduct of the members. In the event of any form of misconduct by any member or members, the Executive shall discipline the member or members in accordance with the Natural Justice Process of New Zealand, and impose such penalty or take such other appropriate action.
- 6.3 The WSU is responsible for all decisions and actions of committee, sub-committees and Officers, including the formation of policies to govern the operations of the JRB.
- 6.4 The WSU shall have the power to co-opt and appoint members to the WSU or such other sub-committees upon such terms and conditions as the WSU shall determine from time to time.
- 6.5 No member or person associated with a member of the WSU shall derive any income, benefit or advantage from the WSU where they can materially influence the payment of the income, benefit or advantage. Except where that income, benefit or advantage is derived from:
- a. Professional services to the WSU rendered in the course of business, charged at no greater rate than current market rates.
- 6.7 The WSU Board may make, amend or rescind policies governing the operation of the business of the WSU

7. Meetings

7.1 WSU Meetings

- a. WSU meetings shall be held at such times and places as the Chairman shall direct, and is agreed upon by the WSU Executive.
- b. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the WSU and shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote. In the absence of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman shall preside. The deputy Chairman while so acting shall have no casting vote.
- c. No business of the WSU shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum of 60% voting members is present within half an hour after the time fixed for the meeting.

7.2 Ordinary General Meetings

- a. Ordinary General Meetings shall be held at such times and places as the WSU decide, giving members 14 days notice.
- b. The order of business at Ordinary General Meetings shall be decided by the WSU Executive.
- c. A member or members may give written notice of motion of matters they wish to raise at an Ordinary General Meeting.
- d. The Chairman shall preside at all Ordinary General Meetings and shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote. In the absence of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman shall preside.

7.3 Annual General Meetings

- a. The Annual General Meeting of the WSU will be held each year on a date and at a time and place to be fixed by the Executive Committee.
- b. All members must be given notice in writing at least 21 days before the date appointed for the meeting stating the business to be discussed and notices of motion if any.
- c. Any notice of motion from members for the Annual General Meeting must be received in writing by the Secretary at least 14 days before the date set for the meeting and signed by at least two member Schools.

7.4 Business at the Annual General Meeting

At the Annual General Meeting the following business shall be transacted:

- a. To approve the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and of any Special General Meeting.
- b. To receive the Annual Report and Balance Sheet, which shall have been circulated at least ten (10) days before the date of the Annual General Meeting to all affiliated members.
- c. Approve appropriate correspondence.
- d. Consideration of notices of Motion the notice of which shall have been circulated to all members.
- e. Election of Officers, those being:
 - i. President: To be circulated to Principals of member schools in alphabetical order
 - ii. Chairman
 - iii. Deputy Chairman
 - iv. Secretary (need not be a delegate from member schools)
 - v. Treasurer (need not be a delegate from member schools)
 - vi. WSU delegate to Northern Regions Schools
- f. To set the annual subscription for all members.
- g. **To be an Officer of the WSU the member school must be eligible for two votes as per 4.3**

7.5 Quorum

No business shall be transacted at any Special General Meeting unless a quorum of **60%** of members is present within half an hour after the time fixed for the meeting.

7.6 Voting

- a. At all meetings of the WSU, every resolution shall be declared on the voices or by a show of hands, unless a ballot is demanded by the majority of the voting members present.
- b. Each member school shall be entitled to have two delegates attend Ordinary, Special and Annual meetings.
- c. Voting rights shall be in accordance with Section 4.3

A delegate may not represent more than one school

8. The WSU may:

- a. Borrow from any person or persons such sum or sums of money with or without security as the Executive Committee thinks fit.
- b. Lend or invest money with a recognised financial institution with or without security on such terms as the Executive thinks fit.
- c. Purchase, rent, take on, lease or in exchange hire or otherwise acquire any real or personal property which the Executive Committee may think necessary for the purposes of the WSU.
- d. All moneys received by or on behalf of the WSU shall forthwith be paid to the credit of the WSU in any account with such bank as the Executive Committee may from time to time decide and all cheques, withdrawal slips or other documents or instruments drawn on or used in respect of such account shall be signed or endorsed by any two members of the Executive Committee, who will be appointed annually by the Executive Committee.
- e. No member or person associated with a member of the WSU shall derive any income, benefit or advantage from the association where they can materially influence the payment of the income, benefit or advantage. Except where that income, benefit or advantage is derived from:
 - i. Professional services to the association rendered in the course of business, charged at no greater rate than current market rates, or

- ii. Interest on money lent at no greater rate than current market rates.

9. Policies

The WSU may make, amend or rescind policies governing the conduct of the affairs of the Association

10. Life Members

- a. Any member of the WSU who has rendered outstanding service to the WSU may be nominated for life membership by any two members in writing to the Secretary. If the Executive Committee accepts that the nominated member has rendered outstanding service the nomination shall be submitted to an election at an Annual General Meeting of the WSU. The nominee must receive at least three-fourths of the votes cast at the election.
- b. Life membership will entitle a life member to all the privileges of membership of the WSU including:
 - i. Holding any office in the WSU;
 - ii. Voting at any meeting of the WSU;
 - iii. Wearing the uniform of the WSU.

11. Alteration of Rules

- 11.1 The rules of the WSU may be altered, amended or rescinded by submitting a recommendation from a 75% majority of voting members present at a special general meeting summonsed for that purpose.

12. Indemnity

- 12.1 No action in law or other claim may be taken by members against any member of the WSU or other member of the WSU who acts in pursuance of the provision of these Rules notwithstanding any irregularity or any action or omission. No member of the WSU is liable for any loss or expenses of the WSU or of any member unless it occurs as a result of a wilful default.

13. Liability of Members

- 13.1 No member is under any liability in respect of any contract, debt or other obligation made or incurred by the WSU.

This is a full copy of the Rules of the Waikato Schools Rugby Union.

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