

**RULES**  
OF THE  
**TAXI OWNERS & DRIVERS**  
**ASSOCIATION**

*City of Manchester*

Revised September 2003

## **RULE 1 NAME AND OFFICE**

### Clause 1

This Society shall be known as:  
Taxi Owners & Drivers Association (City of Manchester) and shall consist of an unlimited number of members.

### Clause 2

The offices of the Association shall be at a place approved by the committee.

### Clause 3

This Association believes in the equality of its members and recognises the right of each individual to participate in all aspects of the Associations' activities.

## **RULE 2 OBJECTIVES**

### Clause 1

To provide benefits for members owning or part owning Metropolitan District of Manchester taxicabs and of associate members driving such taxicabs.

### Clause 2

To generally promote by legislation or otherwise, the interests or welfare of the members, and that the income and property of the Association howsoever derived, shall be applied solely to the aims of the Association as set out in the rules of the Association.

## **RULE 3 QUALIFICATION**

### Clause 1

The following may be admitted to membership; Persons licensed to drive or owning or part owning Manchester licensed taxicabs.

## Clause 2

### Applications for membership

All applications must be proposed and seconded by members of not less than two years standing. The application notice will be posted in a public place at the offices of the Association for not less than twenty eight days. if no objection is received, the applicant will be registered as a member at the next committee meeting. If a written objection is received. the application will be referred to the next General Meeting of the Association a decision will be made on a simple majority of members present.

## Clause 3

### Life President

The members of the Association may if they wish, at a General Meeting, providing there is a vacancy, elect a life President who will automatically become a life member. The President may chair a General Meeting and perform such functions as may be determined by the committee. The President may attend committee meetings at his discretion.

## Clause 4

The committee may recommend that any person maybe made a Life Member but such appointment of a Life member shall not be effective until the same has been approved by a General Meeting. A Life Member shall be entitled to all the benefits to which an ordinary member may from time to time be entitled.

## **RULE 4 CONTRIBUTIONS**

### Clause 1

The annual contribution to be £100 or £8.66 per month.

### Clause 2

No member shall be eligible for any benefits until they have paid the annual contributions.

## **RULE 5 BENEFITS**

### Clause 1

To provide legal aid to members at the discretion of the secretary up to the sum of £100 and larger amounts by resolution of the management committee, provided that the payment of such sum of money has been ordered by reason of circumstances in connection with and arising out of his occupation as licensed taxi owner, or driver.

### Clause 2

To grant assistance to members who have been ordered to pay any sum of money in a Magistrates' Court up to £100 by reason of circumstances in connection with and arising out of his occupation as a licensed taxi owner or driver, at the discretion of the secretary and larger amounts by resolution of the management committee, provided that payment of such sum of money has been ordered.

### Clause 3

To provide members with the assistance of the secretary in all things, appertaining to their calling.

### Clause 4

That any applicant shall have had at least twelve months' continuous membership before making or being entitled to claim benefit.

## **RULE 6 GENERAL MANAGEMENT**

### Clause 1

The sole management shall be vested in a committee composed at no more than nine members who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. Five of whom shall form a quorum. No member shall be eligible to serve on the committee until they have been a member for two years. That any member offering themselves for election shall be obliged to declare their interests in the taxi and hire car trade and membership of any trade organisation. Failure to so declare shall invalidate their candidature. That the term of office shall be that three members of the committee to retire the first year, three members to retire the second year, three members to retire the third year, and so on in subsequent years. Candidates standing for election at the Annual General Meeting shall submit a letter of intent so that members may have some idea of who and what they are voting for. All candidates whether new or for re-election shall submit a letter containing the following information:

- 1 . Who they are and where they live.
2. Why they specifically wish to stand for election.
3. Length of service.
4. in what way will their aims benefit the trade ?
5. Why they think they have something better to offer.
6. Any vested interest, i.e. radio company, union, airport, specific rank interest, etc.

Letters of intent must be published when notices of meetings and lists of candidates are sent to members.

Letters of intent shall be read out at the AGM and candidates shall be prepared to accept questions from the floor.

### Clause 2

Any member of the committee absent from three consecutive meetings of the same without reasonable cause shall cease to be a member of such committee.

Clause 3

The committee shall meet regularly for the transaction of all business.

Special meetings may be called as and when required.

Clause 4

There shall be a Half-Yearly General Meeting open to all members for the purpose of discussing the Half-Yearly Report and any other business. Special meetings may be called by the committee when deemed necessary.

Clause 5

Any member having a grievance or complaint of any kind may be allowed to attend any meetings of the committee to bring to their notice their grievance or complaint or any urgent business appertaining to this Association. previous notice of which must be sent in writing to the secretary of the Association.

Clause 6

There shall be a secretary employed, under agreement, by the committee.

Clause 7

The chairman, vice-chairman and the members of the committee of the Association for the time being shall be the Trustees of the Association. All the property and assets of the Association shall be vested and held in the names of four members of the Association who shall be appointed by the committee at their first meeting following the Annual General Meeting in each year, but such members shall not by virtue of such appointment alone be deemed to be members of the committee or entitled to attend any meetings thereof.

Clause 8

That the books of the Association shall be open for inspection by any official or member of the committee in the presence of the chairman or vice-chairman with the secretary.

Clause 9

The books and accounts shall be audited by a firm or person elected as auditor by the members of the Association at the Annual General Meeting.

Clause 10

That five persons selected from and by the committee plus the secretary shall have the authority to sign cheques. A cheque bearing two signatures to be valid.

Clause 11

The end of the financial year of the Association shall be the 30th day of JUNE of each year.

Clause 12

The committee shall have power to co-opt any member for the business of the Association (in cases of emergency) but no member can be co-opted to the full committee unless nominated at the previous Half Annual General Meeting.

Clause 13

The membership ledger to be open to all members for inspection.

Clause 14

That any member who through illness or any other reason unable to attend any General Meeting of the Association on giving seven days' notice in writing prior to such meeting may appoint any other member to attend such meeting on his or her behalf. Such nominee may speak and vote. No member shall hold more than one proxy vote.

Clause 15

The Association shall not support, with its funds any object, or endeavour to impose, or procure to be observed by its members or others, any regulation, restriction or condition which it an object of the Association would make it a trade union.

#### Clause 16

Saving for the benefits as described in the Rule Book, no member of the management committee or governing body of the Association shall be appointed to any salaried office of the Association or any office of the Association paid by fees and that no remuneration or other benefits in money or money's worth shall be given by the Association to any member of such committee or governing body except repayment of out of pocket expenses. That if a member of committee be appointed to a salaried office of the Association, they shall resign from the committee.

#### Clause 17

That upon the winding up or dissolution of the Association there remains after satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid or distributed among the members of the Association but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having charitable objects similar to the objects of the Association, 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 is imposed on this Association under the rules. Such institution or institutions to be determined by the members of the Association at or before the time of the dissolution and so far as effect can not be given to such provision, then to some charitable object.

### **RULE 7 ELECTION OF OFFICIALS**

The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held at such time and place as the committee may decide. No member shall have more than one vote, plus one proxy.



## **RULE 8 MISCONDUCT**

### Clause 1

Should any member or official be guilty of conduct which, in the opinion of the committee is detrimental to the interests of the Taxi Owners & Drivers Association (City of Manchester) they may suspend him pending the next General Meeting. During the aforesaid member's suspension by the committee he will not be entitled to any of the benefits of the Association.

### Clause 2

No member shall under any pretext whatever represent the Association without first obtaining permission in writing from the secretary, chairman and vice-chairman. Any member acting contrary to this rule shall be called upon to answer for his conduct, and if the case be proved to the satisfaction of the committee, the committee may order such member to be suspended from the Association pending an appeal to a General Meeting.

### Clause 3

Should any member engage a driver without first checking that the driver concerned has fulfilled his financial commitments to any other member of the Taxi Owners & Drivers Association (City of Manchester) then that member in question shall be invited to attend a monthly committee meeting to explain his conduct. if no satisfactory explanation is given by the member then the committee shall suspend membership as allowed under Clause 1 of this rule.

## **RULE 9**

### Clause 1

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association may be demanded by not less than forty members on giving written notice of such demand to the secretary and that meeting be held within twenty one days of receipt of that notice.

Clause 2

No General Meeting called under Rule 9 Clause 1 shall be empowered to conduct any business unless a minimum of thirty of the members signing the demand calling the meeting are present at the commencement.

**RULE 10**

Clause 1

Twenty-eight days' notice must be given of a proposed Half-Annual or Annual General Meeting. The notice to contain information of the date of the meeting and state that proposals will be accepted not later than twenty-one days prior to the meeting, and stipulate the date of the last day proposals will be accepted. The agenda for the meeting to be sent out fourteen days before the meeting.

Clause 2

Any member can submit in writing to the secretary any other amendment or resolution.

Clause 3

Nominations for committee must be lodged at the Association office in time for inclusion on the agenda for a General Meeting.

Clause 4

These rules may be amended by a Half-Annual or Annual General Meeting only.

Clause 5

At any General Meeting a proposal to alter any of the rules of the Association shall not be valid unless such proposal is approved by not less than two thirds of the members present at such meeting. Any other proposal shall be accepted on a majority vote of the members present.

#### Clause 6

Alterations or amendments to any rules will not be permitted within twelve months of the inception of the rule. Subsequent notice of intent to alter or amend must be submitted to the secretary in writing, at least three months before debating. Approval of such alterations or amendments shall depend on a majority decision comprising at least two thirds of all members present.

#### Clause 7

Resolutions adopted by a General Meeting shall not be rescinded or amended at the same meeting nor within twelve months of such meeting and the resolution shall not be rescinded unless by a simple majority of the members present.

### **RULE 11**

In the event of dispute the interpretation of these Rules by the committee shall be final.

#### **MEMBERS' BENEFITS**

##### Sickness Benefits

Any member in benefit is entitled to a cash grant of £31.00 per week in respect of any sickness.

No grant to be paid in respect of the first week of sickness.

A cash grant of £31.00 per week for inpatient hospital treatment shall be payable from the first day of admission.

Maximum period of payment for not more than twelve weeks.

##### Death Benefits

A cash grant of £500 shall be paid in respect of any member who dies

Accident Benefits  
Loss of one eye £150

Loss of one arm £150

Loss of one leg £150

## Dental and Optical Treatment

A grant of two thirds the cost of dentures or dental treatment to a maximum of £10 in any one year.

A grant of £9.00 towards the cost of spectacles. No grant will be payable in respect of repairs or where frames are replaced.

Any member shall be entitled to members' benefits when through sickness or disablement of any description, subject to the following rules:

### Clause 1

1. That the applicant shall have had at least twelve months' continuous membership immediately prior to the time of making any claim before he is entitled to claim.
2. That entitlement to benefits be restricted to inability to work by reason of sickness or disablement not existing prior to the end of the period of twelve months' continuous membership referred to in Rule1 of these rules
3. That the doctor's note for sick benefits shall be presented at the office as soon as possible after the date from which the member desires to claim benefits. No benefits will be paid pending the production of a doctor's note.
4. No member is eligible for members' benefits unless he or she possesses a hackney owner's licence or a current hackney driver's licence, except life members.
5. The committee reserve the option to elect from amongst themselves one of their number to visit a member who may be ill and in receipt of sick benefit.
6. A retirement benefit of £5 per year be paid for twenty years' membership or more. The benefit cannot be drawn before government retirement age.
7. In the interests of all owners, it is urged that members intending to start new drivers, before so doing, should contact the secretary who will supply them with all the pertinent information.

## **RULE 12**

These rules replace any previous rules or amendments.

### **IMPORTANT**

ALL MEMBERS ARE PARTICULARLY REQUESTED TO READ THEIR RULES AS THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PLEAD IGNORANCE SHOULD THEY ACT CONTRARY TO THEM.

**TAXI OWNERS & DRIVERS ASSOCIATION**

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