

RULES OF SAFE FOOD CAMPAIGN

1. The **NAME** of the Society is Safe Food Campaign New Zealand Incorporated. Sometimes we write safefoodnz, and this is its name on social media.
2. The **Society** is not and does not intend to be registered as a charitable entity under the Charities Act 2005.
3. The **OBJECTIVES** of the Society are:
 - 3.1. To promote safe, healthy whole food that comes from organic regenerative agriculture, especially locally, and educate consumers about its advantages, including the mitigation of climate change and protection of animals and the environment.
 - 3.2. To educate consumers about what is in the food we eat, including harmful pesticides, contaminants, additives and genetic engineering.
 - 3.3. To encourage greater access to organic food for everyone.
 - 3.4. To draw attention to the vulnerability of infants and children in various stages of development as they consume more contaminants by bodyweight.
 - 3.5. To draw attention to independent scientific evidence, paying particular attention to the adverse cumulative and cocktail effects of pesticides, additives and contaminants in our diets over time.
 - 3.6. To advocate for legislation which protects consumers from food and drink with harmful substances.
 - 3.7. To cooperate with similar organisations to improve the quality and safety of our diet in New Zealand.
 - 3.8. To promote policy measures that are protective of the long-term health of food growers, workers and producers, acknowledging the connection between healthy people, healthy food and healthy soil.
 - 3.9. To draw attention to the damage and destruction of our natural living world, or ecocide, that results from systems of food production detrimental to people and the environment.

4. **MEMBERS** of the Society are:
- 4.1. Any individual whose application for membership has been accepted by the Society, and who has consented in writing to become a member.
 - 4.2. Any group whose aims and objectives are not opposed to the aims and objectives of the Society and whose application for membership has been accepted by the Society.
 - 4.3. Every **Member** shall provide the **Society** with that **Member's** name and contact details and promptly advise the **Society** of any changes to those details.
 - 4.4. Membership Obligations - Every Member must:
 - 4.4.1. comply with these Rules;
 - 4.4.2. act in a manner that does not bring the Society into disrepute;
 - 4.4.3. follow any code of conduct or policies adopted by the Society;
 - 4.4.4. provide up-to-date contact information;
 - 4.4.5. treat other members with respect;
 - 4.4.6. meet any membership fees (if applicable).
 - 4.5. The Secretary shall keep an up-to-date **Register of Members**, recording for each **Member** their name, contact details, the date they became a **Member**, as prescribed by Regulations under **the Act**.
 - 4.6. Membership does not confer on any **Member** any right, title, or interest (legal or equitable) in the property of the **Society**.
 - 4.7. Only financial members have voting rights.
 - 4.8. Termination and Discipline - A Member may resign at any time by giving written or oral notice to the Society.
 - 4.8.1. The Committee may consider whether a Member's conduct or continued membership is contrary to the interests of the Society or breaches these Rules.
 - 4.8.2. Before any decision is made to suspend or remove a Member, the Member must be:
 - 4.8.2.1. notified in writing of the proposed decision and the reasons for it;
 - 4.8.2.2. given at least 10 working days to provide a written response and/or to be heard;
 - 4.8.2.3. given the opportunity to have a support person or representative attend any meeting.
 - 4.8.2.4. After considering the Member's response, the Committee may decide to:

- 4.8.2.4.1. take no action;
- 4.8.2.4.2. issue a written warning;
- 4.8.2.4.3. suspend the Member; or
- 4.8.2.4.4. terminate membership.
- 4.8.2.4.5. The Committee must provide written notice of its decision and the reasons.

4.9. The **Society** shall maintain at least the minimum number of **Members** required by the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.

5. **DISPUTE RESOLUTION** - Any dispute arising out of or in connection with the Society or its activities between:

- 5.1. a Member and another Member; or a Member and the Society, must be dealt with under this Rule.
- 5.2. The parties must first attempt to resolve the dispute by negotiation and discussion.
- 5.3. If the dispute is not resolved within 20 working days, either party may request that the Committee appoint one or more persons independent of the dispute to assist the parties to resolve it.
- 5.4. The Committee must ensure that the process used is consistent with the principles of natural justice, including:
 - 5.4.1. each party being given notice of the dispute and relevant information;
 - 5.4.2. each party having a reasonable opportunity to respond;
 - 5.4.3. a decision-maker who is impartial.
- 5.5. The outcome of any dispute resolution process must be recorded in writing and provided to the parties.

6. RULES

- 6.1. These Rules may be amended by an **ordinary resolution** passed by a simple majority of Members present and voting at a General or Special Meeting, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment is sent to all Members at least 5 clear days before the meeting.

- 6.2. When an amendment is approved by a **General or Special Meeting** it shall be notified to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies in the form and manner specified in **the Act** for registration, and shall take effect from the date of registration.
- 6.3. No addition to or alteration of the objects, personal benefit clause or the winding up clause shall be made which affect the tax-exempt status/not-for-profit status. The provisions and effect of this clause shall not be removed from this document and shall be included and implied into any document replacing this document.

7. MEETINGS

- 7.1. **Meetings** of the Society will be held virtually or face to face as often as necessary to fulfil the objects of the Society, but there must be at least one meeting during a calendar year, that of the Annual General Meeting.
- 7.2. Any General, Special Meeting or Committee Meeting may be held by audio, audio-visual, or electronic communication, provided all attendees can hear and/or communicate with each other. Attendance by electronic means counts as being “present”.
- 7.3. Notices to Members may be given by email or any other electronic means specified by the Committee. A notice is deemed received when sent.
- 7.4. Notice of general or special meeting may be written or oral except when changes to the rules are proposed and for the Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting when written notice one week or 5 clear days prior to the meeting must be given.
- 7.5. The Annual General Meeting of the Society should be held within six months of the end of the financial year to receive, consider, and adopt the annual report, to receive, consider, and adopt the accounts, and to elect at least three members to the Committee.
- 7.6. Decisions at meetings should be reached by consensus, but when agreement cannot be reached in this manner, a simple majority of members present may be used.
- 7.7. A quorum for a general or special meeting will be five members.
- 7.8. All proceedings of meetings will be recorded and available to members.

8. COMMITTEE

8.1. The **Committee** of the Society elected at the A.G.M. consisting of at least three members will elect from their numbers at least one convenor, a secretary, and a treasurer. The committee will have power to co-opt other members onto the Committee so long as the co-opted members do not outnumber the elected members.

8.2. Officer Eligibility

8.2.1. A person may not be an Officer if disqualified under section 47 of the Incorporated Societies Act 2022, including if they are:

- 8.2.1.1. under 16 years of age;
- 8.2.1.2. an undischarged bankrupt;
- 8.2.1.3. prohibited from being a director or promoter of a company;
- 8.2.1.4. convicted of a dishonesty offence within the last 7 years;
- 8.2.1.5. subject to certain court orders under the Criminal Procedure Act 2011 or the Companies Act 1993.

8.3. Duties of Officers

8.3.1. Every Officer must:

- 8.3.1.1. act in good faith and in the best interests of the Society;
- 8.3.1.2. exercise reasonable care and diligence;
- 8.3.1.3. not knowingly breach the Act or these Rules;
- 8.3.1.4. not act, or agree to the Society acting, in a manner that is oppressive, unfairly discriminatory, or unfairly prejudicial to a Member;
- 8.3.1.5. not use their position for personal benefit;
- 8.3.1.6. not use information gained in their role for personal benefit.

8.4. Removal of Officers - The Society may remove an Officer by an ordinary resolution at a General Meeting if:

- 8.4.1. the Officer has breached their duties or;
- 8.4.2. is no longer eligible to hold office.

The Officer must be given written notice of the proposed removal and reasonable opportunity to provide a response.

8.5. The committee will be responsible to the Society for the daily running of the Society's affairs and will meet as appropriate.

8.6. A quorum for a committee meeting will be three.

8.7. Members of the committee may resign at any time and may be replaced by election at a general meeting provided written notice of such an election is given to all members one week (or 5 clear days) prior to the meeting.

9. MONEY

- 9.1. The Society will have the power to raise funds through membership fees, donations, and other money raising activities in order to fulfil the objectives of the Society. All such monies raised will be held in a bank account under the control of the treasurer.
- 9.2. Any money shall be solely used for the purposes and promotion of the society and its aims. Members or associated people can be paid a modest stipend to fulfil the society's functions, with agreement of the committee.
- 9.3. The society does not have the power to borrow money.
- 9.4. The society does not have the purpose of distributing a profit for any member, and prohibits a distribution of property in any form to any member.
- 9.5. The **Society's** financial year shall commence on 1 April of each year and end on 31 March of each year (the latter date being the **Society's** balance date).
- 9.6. The Society will prepare and file annual **financial statements** in accordance with the External Reporting Board (XRB) standards, as required by the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.
- 9.7. The Society will keep and maintain records as required by the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.
- Members may, upon reasonable notice, inspect the Register of Members and other records except where withholding is lawful under the Act.

10. WINDING UP

- 10.1. If the Society is wound up, any surplus assets must be given or transferred to another not-for-profit organisation in New Zealand with similar objectives.
- 10.2. No surplus assets may be distributed to Members.