

Proposed amendments to AMOS rules – March 2010

Following discussion at the AGM, the following amendments have been drafted; the intention is to put them, or whatever Council may decide on, to a special general meeting on 16 April.

1. Changing financial year end from 31 December to 30 September

In 2.1, amend to state “Financial year” means the year ending on 30 September’.

2. Nominations for Council positions

The effect of the proposed change would be to allow nominations to be taken from the floor in the event of no nominations being received by the closing date.

New 26.4. If insufficient nominations for a position are received by the closing date, nominations for that position may be made at the Annual General Meeting.

Renumber the old 26.4 and 26.5 as 26.5 and 26.6 respectively.

3. Business at general meetings

The intention here is to alter the rules so that general discussion and “straw polls” can take place at general meetings without formal notice, but that any binding vote can only take place on a resolution of which due notice has been given.

Delete the old 10.2 (No business other than that set out in the notice convening the meeting shall be transacted at the meeting) and replace with a new 10.2:

10.2. A vote on a resolution put to a general meeting shall only be binding on the Society if the resolution is set out in the notice convening the meeting. Other business may be discussed at the discretion of the Chair but may not be the subject of a binding vote.

4. Business at Executive meetings

At present the rules do not make any provision for Executive meetings. It is proposed to introduce similar procedures as apply for Council meetings, although with a smaller quorum.

Add new 25.3. Any meetings of the Executive shall take place in accordance with the procedures for Council meetings under rule 28, except that the quorum shall be one less than the full number of the Executive.

Membership categories

At this time it is not proposed to put a change of membership categories to a general meeting.

With respect to some of the options discussed at the AGM and elsewhere:

- Altering the qualifications for a Fellow (perhaps to make it the “normal” level of professional membership) requires a simple majority vote at a general meeting, but does not require a change to the rules.
- The introduction of other categories (e.g. retired fellow, associate) does require a change to the rules.

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20 March 2010