



FEDERATION OF ANGLO-SWISS CLUBS

Founded June 19th 1932

Constitution

9th Revision - January 2009

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Preliminaries

Constitution

As first amended- 2nd February 1936
2nd Revision 14th June 1936
3rd Revision 15th June 1941
4th Revision - August 1957
5th Revision - October 1979
6th Revision - March 1986
7th Revision - March 1999
8th Revision - October 2001
9th Revision – January 2009

List of FASC Presidents

1932 - 1934	No Record
1935	Mr L. Brändli
1936	Mr H.R.S. Sanders
1937 - 1938	Mr C. W. Oliver
1938 - 1947	Mr C.W. Welman
1948 - 1959	Mr A.V. Thornton
1960 - 1963	Mr J.Jenoure
1964 - 1978	Mr D.Q Stephenson
1979 - 1983	Mr W.R. Koch
1984 - 1988	Mrs J. Martinet
1989 - 1993	Mrs B. Rüttimann
1994 - 1998	Mr T. Dury
1999 - 2003	Mr R.Howis
2004 - 2007	Mr L. Belet
2008 -	Mrs F.J. Hadfield-Hart

Records of Revisions

Revision	Date:	Main Description of Changes:	Author:
9th	Jan.09	Full revision, removal of Associate Membership category, amendment to Officers of the association, improvement to layout.	J. Greenway
9 th	Mar09	Revision of Terminology for the groups	F Hadfield-Hart

Aim and Purpose of the Federation of Anglo-Swiss Clubs

- 1 The purpose of the Federation of Anglo-Swiss Clubs shall be to promote friendship and understanding between Switzerland, Great Britain and all English-speaking peoples. To this end it shall actively encourage fraternal collaboration between all bona fide Anglo-Swiss Clubs and other Clubs which use English as their main means of communication, by whatever means are deemed fit.

Membership

- 2 The Federation of Anglo-Swiss Clubs shall comprise:
 - a) All bona fide Anglo-Swiss Clubs which have fulfilled the obligations prescribed in these regulations;
 - b) All clubs and organisations which promote the use of, and whose common language is English and which agree to be bound by this constitution;
 - c) Honorary members, who are identified as those persons meeting the criteria set out in paragraph 12 under Honorary Membership.

Rules and Obligations Applicable to Membership

- 3 The Federation of Anglo-Swiss Clubs hereinafter referred to as "the Federation", is apolitical and non-sectarian. No party political or sectarian discussion is permitted at any Federation Meeting.
- 4 No club may use the Federation to seek a commercial advantage without the approval of the Federation Committee. This approval will only be granted where the club has the agreement of its members and the commercial advantage to be gained will benefit the Federation, the Club and /or its members. No approval will be given where an advantage for one club is obtained to the detriment of other clubs or the Federation.
- 5 The Federation may, subject to the discretion of the Federation Committee, allow certain organisations to mail Member Clubs' Presidents or acting Presidents, if they so desire, with offers that could be of direct benefit to the members. It will thereafter be up to the discretion of each club to decide whether to pass these offers to its members.
- 6 The Federation Committee are empowered to negotiate a fee, when applicable, directly with an organisation seeking a commercial advantage through collaboration with the Federation and Member Clubs.
- 7 All Clubs admitted to membership shall retain their full autonomous rights.

Membership Application

A Club applying for membership shall proceed as follows:

- 8 An application giving the exact title and address of the Club, the year of its foundation, and the full names and addresses of its President, Secretary and Treasurer, and a copy of its rules, with a statement of its aims and purposes, shall be addressed to the Federation Secretary.
- 9 Applications must be supported by at least one member Club or a member of the Federation Committee.
- 10 The Federation Committee shall decide, with a simple majority vote, whether the application shall be accepted or rejected and shall inform the candidate of its decision. It may, at its discretion, reject an application without being under any obligation to submit its reasons.
- 11 On acceptance of an application for membership, the subscription dues according to rules 16 and 17 should be remitted to the Federation Treasurer.

Honorary Membership

- 12 Honorary membership is given in recognition of individuals who have played a major and outstanding role within the Federation and who have substantially contributed to the Federation's development and are a full member (honorary or otherwise) of any member club in good standing within the Federation.
- 13 An honorary member is entitled to attend Executive Council Meetings and may contribute towards them. They are not entitled to vote at the meeting unless doing so in their capacity as the representative of a member club.
- 14 Such proposal for honorary membership must be presented to the Federation President by a member club in good standing at least 6 months in advance of an Executive Council meeting, and be seconded by another club giving good reasons for the proposal.
- 15 The proposal will then be discussed by the Executive Council and presented to the next Executive Council meeting where two thirds of the members present must vote in favour.

Membership Subscription

- 16 The annual subscription to the Federation shall be determined by the Executive Council, based upon a levy sum per club member of each of the individual clubs forming the Federation.
- 17 The subscription for Member Clubs shall be calculated according to the total membership of each club on record as per December 31st in each year. Dues are to be received on the Federation's bank account by the end of March. If a

club becomes a member from July onwards, pro-rata fees apply. For approved membership prior to the end of June, full year fees apply.

- 18 Any Member Club resigning from membership of the Federation shall be required to give written notice to the Secretary and shall have no claim whatsoever on Federation funds.
- 19 Any Member Club falling in arrears with the subscription and failing, after two written reminders, to pay the amount due shall cease to be a member.
- 20 Debts can be met only out of Federation assets and no personal liability attaches to Members Clubs or the Executive Council for debts incurred by Committee members or bodies of the Federation acting beyond their authority.

General Administration

- 21 The activities of the Federation are undertaken by the Committee.
- 22 The financial year of the Federation shall run from January 1st to December 31st in any year.

Executive Council

- 23 The Executive Council shall be composed of the Presidents or delegates of the Member Clubs and the Federation Committee.

Federation Committee

- 24 The Federation Committee positions are a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Lecture Organiser, an Events Co-ordinator, an Editor of the official Federation publication, a Webmaster and when applicable a Federation Archivist.
- 25 The Federation Committee members are elected from among the Federation's Member Clubs and may continue as members of the Executive Council after relinquishing office but shall have no vote as a member of Executive Council.

Meetings of the Executive Council

- 26 The Executive Council shall meet at least twice a year, once in the spring, and once in the autumn. The Spring Meeting will be known as the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and is to be held before the 31st March in any given year. The autumn meeting will be known as the "Autumn Meeting".
- 27 An extraordinary general meeting (EGM) can be held only when summoned by one third of the Executive Council. The demand for an EGM must be sent to the

- Federation Committee in writing and list the requests and proposed agenda. An EGM may also be summoned by the Federation Committee of its' volition.
- 28 The Federation Committee shall be the authorised representative of the Federation. The Federation shall not be bound by any document that does not bear the signature of the President and one other member of the Committee.
- 29 Each Member Club shall have one vote, which shall be cast by the President of each Member Club (or one delegate from each) at meetings of the Executive Council.
- 30 Committee members shall also be entitled to one vote each at meetings of the Executive Council. If a Committee member is also a club's delegate, two votes apply.
- 31 Presidents of Member Clubs may delegate any member of their respective Clubs, or any member of any Federated Club of their region, to represent them on the Executive Council in the event of their unavoidable absence and to vote on their behalf.

Election of the Federation Committee

- 32 All positions on the Federation Committee shall be elected by the Executive Council at the Annual General Meeting by a simple majority. The President and Vice-President shall hold office for three years and shall be eligible for re-election at the end of that period for further periods of one year, but may not hold office in the same position for more than five consecutive years. All elected members assume their official positions at the time of their election. If the need arises and the Federation Committee cannot appoint anyone from within the committee, they may, at their own discretion appoint additional members to serve as committee members. This is to either accommodate expanding Federation activities or to fill a vacant committee position through resignation or other event resulting in a vacancy.
- 33 The President shall annually submit to the Executive Council at the AGM a report on the work of the Federation during the preceding year. The Treasurer shall submit to the Executive Council a financial statement for the preceding year.
- 34 An honorary auditor shall be appointed who shall be a member of good standing of one of the Member Clubs of the Federation

Business of the Federation

- 35 The business of the Federation shall be carried out by the following committee members; the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, any three of whom shall be deemed to form a quorum.
- 36 The Committee members may represent the Federation on behalf of the Executive Council in all business dealings with outside parties.

- 37 The Federation shall not be bound by any document that does not bear the signature of a member of the Committee.
- 38 The Committee members need explicit approval for ad-hoc expenses exceeding CHF 2000.
- 39 Approval of expenses incurred for the ASN and the Summer weekend is given by the Executive Council on approval of the annual budget at the AGM.

Federation Weekend

- 40 A Social Weekend open to all members of Federated Clubs shall be held annually or as desired by the majority of the Executive Council and shall be organised by the Federation Committee.

Dismissal

- 41 In the event of a reported infringement of the Federation rules by any Member Club, which may be injurious to the well-being of the Federation or of any of its members, the Executive Council shall decide whether it is desirable that the Member Club should be excluded from the Federation.
- 42 The representative of the Club of which the conduct is impugned shall have the right to attend the Executive Council in their defence.
- 43 A decision of the Executive Council to exclude a Member Club shall only be valid if pronounced by a two-thirds majority of the members of the Council present. The decision of the Executive Council shall be final.

Amendments

- 44 An amendment to the constitution may be proposed by Member Clubs at any time. Amendments must be presented in writing to the Executive Council. If agreed by the Federation Committee, they will be voted upon at either the Annual General Meeting, the autumn meeting or at an EGM of the Executive Council. To ensure that fair provision is made to review changes to the constitution and fair representation made, proposed changes shall be notified to Member Clubs of the Federation a minimum of four weeks in advance of such a meeting. Amendments to the constitution will be adopted provided they are carried by a two-thirds majority of the members of the Executive Council present.

Dissolution

- 45 At an Executive Council Meeting, a minimum of half the Member Clubs on record as per the date of that meeting must support a motion to vote for the dissolution of the Federation at a subsequent EGM. See point 26. If the dissolution process is started, the process should not take more than 6 months.

- 46 At the EGM, a two-thirds majority of the members of the Executive Council eligible to vote, ascertained by a show of hands and/or a postal vote received by the day preceding that meeting, must be obtained for the motion to proceed.
- 47 If the motion is approved, each Member Club must be notified by registered post that two-thirds of the clubs are in agreement to dissolve the Federation. At this point the Federation of Anglo-Swiss Clubs is dissolved.
- 48 Assets remaining after the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Federation may be used, at the discretion of the Executive Council, for purposes consistent with the aims of the Federation.

Acceptance of the Constitution

The foregoing Constitution and Rules were adopted in their original form at the meeting of the Executive council in Bienne on February 18th, 1934 and have been subsequently amended.

The ninth revision was submitted to and accepted by the Executive Council at its Annual General Meeting in Berne, March 7th 2009 and becomes applicable with immediate effect following the completion of signing by the following signatories.

For and on behalf of the Executive Council

President:

Vice-President:

Two representatives from the Executive Council who are not Officers of the Federation

Name, Position and Member Club:

Name, Position and Member Club:

Berne, March 7th 2009