



*Member of the World Cat Congress*

# **New Zealand Cat Fancy Inc.**

## **Constitution**

# NZCF MEMBERSHIP

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Layout changes have been made to increase the use of lists for easier reading and which should also make it simpler to compare types of membership.

Changes are marked up in blue for this proposal but will be issued in the usual mid-grey if approved. Generally only content changes have commentary.

There is one significant change (an addition) in **Cessation of Membership**.

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## 4. Types of Membership

4.1 Membership shall be open to:

- a. any individual person who wishes to become an ordinary member who is:
  - i. interested in owning, breeding, or exhibiting cats, and
  - ii. a full, junior, family, or life member of a cat club that is an affiliate member of the NZCF; or
- b. a club that wishes to become an affiliate member which:
  - i. is incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022,
  - ii. has objects and other rules that are consistent with and remain consistent with this Constitution, and
  - iii. has at least five members having voting rights with the NZCF.

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Updated Incorporated Societies Act date.

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4.2 Members have the rights, privileges, recognition, and responsibilities set out in this Constitution.

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Moved up from para 4.3 as a more important point. 'Members' replaces an incomplete list of the members covered by this section (honorary was omitted from the list but are included).

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4.3 A member of the NZCF will be:

- a. an ordinary member,
- b. an affiliate member,
- c. a life member, or
- d. an honorary member.

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'Either' removed ("A member of the NZCF will ~~either~~ be ...") as it usually refers to two options but four are listed.

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4.4 Ordinary members are one of the following classes.

- a. Full members are applicants whose primary place of residence is within New Zealand. Having paid the required membership fees, subscriptions, and levies they:
- i. are eligible to vote,
  - ii. may be granted or use a NZCF prefix,
  - iii. may hold office in the NZCF, and
  - iv. will receive NZCF publications.
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Rearranged to give the requirements first (place of residence, having paid), then listing the rights. Added rights (prefix, holding office, publications) which are specified as **not** available to associate members but not listed as being **part of** full membership.

Removed 'are restricted to' from place of residence sentence; not needed.

Added 'membership' to fees; this is what they are called for honorary members (as something they do not have to pay).

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- b. Family members are applicants who are aged 16 years or more, a member of the full member's family (as defined by current Family Laws in New Zealand), and are living at the full member's address. Having paid the required membership fees, subscriptions, and levies, they:
- i. are eligible to vote,
  - ii. may be granted or use a NZCF prefix, and
  - iii. may hold office in the NZCF, but
  - iv. will not receive NZCF publications.
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Moved up family members to follow full members as they closely relate.

As above, regarding rearranging requirements and adding a list of rights for clarity.

Change marks on voting relates to wording changes only. The right to vote exists in the original content as 'and who will have voting rights'.

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- c. Associate members who, having paid the required membership fees, subscriptions, and levies:
- i. are not eligible to vote,
  - ii. may not be granted or use a NZCF prefix, and
  - iii. may not hold office in the NZCF, but
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- iv. will receive NZCF publications.
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NZCF publications are not mentioned in original content for associate (but were for family). Current practice is that associate members **do** receive NZCF publications.

'Can not' (ability) in original content changed to 'may not' (permission).

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- d. Junior members are applicants whose primary place of residence is within New Zealand and are under 16 years of age. Having paid the required membership fees, subscriptions, and levies they:
- i. are not eligible to vote,
  - ii. may not be granted or use a NZCF prefix,
  - iii. may not hold office in the NZCF, and
  - iv. will not receive NZCF publications.
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As above, regarding rearranging requirements and adding a list of rights (they don't have) for clarity.

Original content states junior members have the same rights as associate members but there is a difference – they do not receive NZCF publications so they are not exactly the same. Using the same style of list as the other classes should make this clearer.

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- 4.5 An affiliate member is as described in para 4.1 b. Having paid the required membership fees, subscriptions, and levies they:
- a. are eligible to vote, and
  - b. will receive NZCF publications.
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Moved up to 4.5 (from 4.7) to follow the order listed in para 4.3.

Added the wording about membership fees etc, and a list of rights, for the same reasons as above.

The right to vote existed in the original text as 'have the right to vote'. NZCF publications are sent to affiliate members.

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- 4.6 A life member is a person who is acknowledged as a longstanding member who has made significant contribution to the NZCF. A life member does not have to pay membership fees, subscriptions, or levies but has all the rights and privileges of a full member so they:
- a. are eligible to vote,
  - b. may be granted or use a NZCF prefix,
  - c. may hold office in the NZCF, and
  - d. will receive NZCF publications.

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Added membership fees to what life members do not need to pay, and included the list of rights.

In the original content life members had the same rights and privileges as an 'ordinary member' but that's been changed to 'full member' as there are four classes of ordinary member with different rights and privileges.

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- 4.7 An honorary member is a person who is acknowledged as providing or having provided important services to the NZCF. An honorary member does not have to pay membership fees, subscriptions, or levies and they:
- a. are not eligible to vote.
  - b. may not be granted or use a NZCF prefix.
  - c. may hold office in the NZCF, but
  - d. will not receive NZCF publications.
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As above for adding a list of rights **and** privileges. Removed original wording stating honorary members had 'none of the rights or privileges of full members' because one of the General Rules and Policies permits them to hold office as an official.

The list specifies which rights and privileges they do have.

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## 5. Admission of Members

- 5.1 To become an ordinary or an affiliate member, the applicant must:
- a. complete an application form, with the form and content as prescribed from time to time by the Executive Council, and
  - b. supply any other information the Executive Council requires.
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'a person' and brackets removed (previously 'a person (the applicant) must:') for clarity as an affiliate is not a person.

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- 5.2 The Executive Council may interview the applicant when it considers membership applications.
- 5.3 The Executive Council shall have complete discretion when it decides whether or not to let the applicant become an ordinary or affiliate member. The Executive Council shall advise the applicant of its decision, and that decision shall be final.
- 5.4 An ordinary member may become a life member as follows:
- a. A recommendation is made by at least five ordinary members entitled to vote and one affiliate member.

- b. A recommendation is forwarded to the Secretary for consideration by the Executive Council.
- c. If a motion is passed by the Executive Council to accept the recommendation, the nomination shall then be placed on the ballot paper for the next Annual General Meeting.
- d. All persons who are nominated for life membership will be considered life members if a majority (51% or more) of members voting, support the motion.

Intro sentence changed because the first two subparas are requirements ('if') but the third is a procedural step in the life membership process. Now all steps are part of the procedure.

Added 'entitled to vote' after 'ordinary members' in subpara a. as some ordinary members are not able to vote so it would be unusual that they could make nominations.

Original subpara c. divided into two subparas since these are two steps by two different groups (EC and members).

Wording of subpara c. expanded and reordered to reflect that the recommendation has to be put as a motion to the EC meeting and accepted and then becomes a nomination at the AGM. This enables some content to be removed from the GR&P.

- 5.5 An honorary member shall be appointed by the NZCF Executive Council upon such terms and conditions permitted by this Constitution for a term befitting the reasons for making the appointment.

## 6. The Register of Members

- 6.1 A register of members shall be kept which shall contain the following information about all members:
- a. names,
  - b. current addresses,
  - c. telephone numbers,
  - d. email address,
  - e. the dates at which they became members, and
  - f. their current class of membership.

Intro wording rearranged to enable a list format.

## 7. Cessation of Membership

- 7.1 Any member may resign by giving written notice to the Secretary.
- 7.2 Any member may have their membership terminated or suspended as an outcome of:
- a. a dispute or discipline process,
  - b. the failure to pay fees or levies as required in this Constitution,
  - c. a unanimous vote by the Executive Council in accordance with the promulgated rules, or
  - d. in the case of an honorary member, a majority decision by the Executive Council to end the appointment.

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**Significant change:** The addition of new para 7.2 c. in support of this option in the General Rules and Policies. **Rationale:** The circumstances where membership can be terminated should be noted in the CON rather than one of them just appearing in the GR&P.

Removed 'at any time' and 'is made' in subpara d. (originally 'at any time a majority decision is made by the'). Not required.

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## 8. Obligations of Members

- 8.1 All members (including Executive Council members) shall promote the purposes of the NZCF and shall do nothing to bring the NZCF into disrepute.

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Changed 'and' to 'including'; EC members are not additional to 'all members' ('and').

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