



## RULES FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

- 1 Subject to the provisions of the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act (Lawyers) Constitution 2008 any person, whether or not resident in New Zealand, claiming a significant association with the legal profession in New Zealand through:
  - (a) being or having been a member of the judiciary; or
  - (b) responsible employment or engagement (including as a legal executive):
    - (i) in the practice of a barrister or a solicitor or of both;
    - (ii) in commerce;
    - (iii) in Government or public service;
    - (iv) by the New Zealand Council of Legal Education;
    - (v) as a lecturer in law at a recognised tertiary institute;
    - (vi) by any legal professional association or body,shall be eligible to become an associate member of the New Zealand Law Society.
  
- 2 No person shall be eligible to be or remain an associate member of the Society who:
  - (a) ceases to be eligible according to Rule 1;
  - (b) is or becomes the holder of a practising certificate in New Zealand as a barrister or solicitor or as both;
  - (c) is or becomes an honorary member of the Society;
  - (d) has been struck off the roll of barristers and solicitors pursuant to an order under section 242(1)(c) of the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act or pursuant to the provisions of any earlier or subsequent enactment;
  - (e) is a lawyer suspended from practice pursuant to section 242(1)(e) or section 245(1) of the Act, or pursuant to the provisions of any earlier or subsequent enactment;
  - (f) is subject to an order made pursuant to section 242(1)(h)(ii) of the Act prohibiting the employment of that person, or pursuant to the provisions of any earlier or subsequent enactment;
  - (g) is not a fit and proper person to be an associate member of the Society.
  
- 3 Applications for appointment as an associate member shall be:
  - (a) on a form prescribed and supplied by the Society;
  - (b) accompanied by copies of the documents required by that form;
  - (c) verified by a declaration made by the applicant;
  - (d) supported by two recent references, one being the applicant's employer or a person associated with the applicant in his or her employment or engagement, and at least one being from a New Zealand resident;
  - (e) accompanied by such other information as the Board may require.
  
- 4 Exemptions to Rule 3  
The provisions of Rule 3 shall not apply to any person
  - (a) who is or has been a member of the judiciary; or
  - (b) who has ceased to be a practising member of the Society during the previous 3 years and who had immediately before that been a practising member for a minimum period of 5 continuous years; or
  - (c) who is, at the time they apply, a member of the New Zealand Institute of Legal Executives; or
  - (d) who is, at the time they apply, a member of the Family Law Section of the Law Council of Australia.

In the case of such people, applications for appointment as an associate member shall be on a form prescribed and supplied by the Society and shall be accompanied by such other information as the Board may require.

- 5 Inquiry as to eligibility
  - (a) The Board may make such inquiry as it considers fit as to the eligibility of the applicant for membership, including inquiry of a district law society or NZLS branch, the New Zealand Institute of Legal Executives, or an overseas legal professional body.
  - (b) The Board may generally or in any particular case waive the requirements of Rule 3 or 4.
  
- 6 Where the Board is satisfied that the applicant:
  - (a) is eligible according to these Rules; and
  - (b) has a significant association with the legal profession; and
  - (c) such association is likely to promote the interests of the legal profession and the interests of the public in relation to legal mattersthe Board may, in its absolute discretion, appoint the applicant to be an associate member of the Society subject to these Rules. The Board shall not be required to give any reasons if it does not appoint any applicant as an associate member.
  
- 7 Any person appointed as an associate member shall become an associate member on payment of such entrance fee (if any) and such annual subscription as shall be fixed by the Board. The Board may, in its discretion, set different fees and subscriptions for specified classes of associate members.
  
- 8 The Board may in its discretion at any time revoke the appointment of any person as an associate member of the Society.
  
- 9 Any associate member who fails to pay the entrance fee (if any) or any annual subscription within one calendar month after the due date for payment shall thereupon cease to be an associate member of the Society unless the Board otherwise decides in any particular case or cases.
  
- 10 Associate members of the Society shall be eligible for election or appointment to:
  - (a) the Society's committees;
  - (b) any Section of the Society where the Section's rules or bylaws provide for membership by associate members.
  
- 11 Associate members of the Society shall be entitled to such privileges and services from the Society and to designate their associate membership in such manner as the Board may from time to time determine.
  
- 12 All or any of the powers and duties of the Board under this rule may be delegated to any committee or to the Executive Director as the Board shall determine.
  
- 13 The Board may at any time require any associate member to produce evidence of his or her eligibility to remain an associate member.
  
- 14 Associate members of District Law Societies that become branches of the New Zealand Law Society as at 1 February 2009 will become associate members of the New Zealand Law Society.

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