



Rules for

SURFBREAK PROTECTION SOCIETY Inc.

A Society dedicated to the conservation of the "treasures" of the New Zealand Surfing Community - our surfbreaks - through the preservation of their natural characteristics, water quality, marine eco systems and low-impact access for all.

1. NAME

The name of the society will be **Surfbreak Protection Society Incorporated**; in this constitution called "the Society".

Introduction:

Surfing is a sport and recreational pastime enjoyed by growing numbers of New Zealanders and visitors to New Zealand. Approximately 7% of New Zealanders are estimated to "surf" on a regular basis. Surfing makes a valuable contribution to the wellbeing of New Zealanders. Regular surfing promotes health and fitness, cross cultural and intergenerational camaraderie and a sense of connection to and respect for New Zealand's coastal environment and resources. Surfing makes as significant contribution to the New Zealand economy through the manufacture and sale of surfing equipment and accessories and the expenditure on travel and accommodation associated with New Zealanders' and tourists search for quality surf. Surfbreaks are the most indispensable resource in this broad spectrum of social and economic activity. The founders and members of "Surfbreak Protection" regard surfbreaks as an invaluable national treasure or taonga which demand advocacy and protection for the sake of future generations. The compounding pressures of development, growing urbanization, changing patterns of land and marine resource use can have very negative impacts on coastal ecology and on surfbreaks and public access to surfbreaks.

For the purposes of the Surfbreak Protection Society, a surfbreak is defined as a feature of the foreshore exposed to open ocean swell which has the unique combination of natural features required to produce quality surf for surf riding or surfing. Surfbreaks can occur at sand bottom beaches, river or estuary sandbars, rock or reef lined points and outcrops.

2. MISSION STATEMENT

Surfbreak Protection (the Society) is dedicated to the protection and enhancement of New Zealand's surf-breaks for the benefit of New Zealand's surfing community and all New Zealanders.

3. OBJECTIVES

The Society will promote the conservation and protection of the unique **natural characteristics** of surfbreaks throughout New Zealand /Aotearoa.

The Society will promote the maintenance of **water quality** at surfbreaks sufficient for human health and the healthy functioning of local marine life and ecosystems.

The Society will promote the protection of local **marine life and ecosystems at** surfbreaks

The Society will promote the **public right to low impact access** to surfbreaks throughout New Zealand

The Society will promote the public recognition of the unique **values of surfbreaks** and their contribution to New Zealand's cultural, spiritual and economic wellbeing.

The Society may co-operate and liaise with any other individual, organization, or institution whose objectives are the same as or connected to those of the Society.

The Society may undertake such other activities as are compatible with, and will support, the objectives of the Society.

PRINCIPLES

The Society will in the pursuit of its activities take into account the following principles:

A) '**The principles of the Treaty of Waitangi**'. Consultation is a principle of the Treaty and there is an obligation to ensure that consultation does take place where tangata whenua are likely to be directly affected by any of the Society's activities.

B) **Principles outlined in the Resource Management Act**, in particular:

- **The preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment** (including the coastal marine area), wetlands, and lakes and rivers and their margins, and the protection of them from inappropriate subdivision, use and development
- **The protection of recognised customary activities**

A 'recognised customary activity' is defined in the RMA as being 'an activity, use, or practice carried on, exercised, or followed under a customary rights order'. Customary rights orders can be granted over a specified marine area (below mean high water springs) under the Foreshore and Seabed Act 2004. Such orders recognize a particular activity, use or practice which has been carried out in that area since 1840.

C) **Transparency and Accountability**

Endeavour to conduct the Society's activities with accountability and transparency. To regularly and openly convey information to the public about our mission, activities, accomplishments and decision-making processes. Information to be easily accessible to the public and should create external visibility, public understanding and trust in the organization.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Any person who agrees with the objects of the Society may, subject to the Executive Committee's approval, become a member of the Society by application in writing and upon payment of the membership subscription set from time to time by a General Meeting of the Society.

4.2 A register of members of the Society will be maintained by the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of the Incorporated Societies Act, 1908 and subsequent enactments.

4.3 Any person may resign membership of the Society by giving oral or written notice to the Secretary. The Secretary will maintain a record of any resignation.

4.4 Any member whose subscription remains unpaid 90 days after the close of the Annual General Meeting shall be deemed to have resigned from the Society.

5. GENERAL MEETINGS

"General Meeting" refers to both Annual General Meeting and Special General Meeting, unless otherwise specified.

5.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held within 6 months of the end of the Society's financial year.

5.2 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall include the report of the President of the Society, the Annual Financial Statements, the election of officers and committee for the forthcoming year.

5.3 The President, or any six members of the committee, or 10 members of the Society may request the Secretary in writing to call a special general meeting of all members of the Society at any other time than the Annual General Meeting to discuss matters nominated in the requisition. Within 14 days after receipt of any such requisition the Secretary shall notify all members of the Society in writing of the time and place at which a general meeting shall be held and the business to be conducted thereat. Such meeting shall be held within 42 days after the request for a meeting is received.

5.4 The Secretary shall provide all members of the Society with at least 14 days notice of any general meeting of the Society. Such notice shall be given in writing and shall be sent to the address last notified to the Society by each member as either the physical or electronic address of that member.

5.5 The President of the Society shall chair all general and committee meetings or, in the President and Vice President's absence, the meeting shall appoint a chairperson.

5.6 At all meetings of the Society, the chairperson shall have a deliberative and a casting vote.

5.7 The President and Vice President shall be ex-officio members of all sub-committees of the Society.

6. SUBSCRIPTION

Membership subscriptions shall be as decided from time to time by a majority of members present at an Annual General Meeting.

7. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

7.1 The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, or Secretary/Treasurer.

7.2 The committee of the Society shall consist of not less than 8 and not more than 10 members, with power to co-opt if considered desirable.

7.3 The officers and committee of the Society shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting from nominations received prior to or at the Annual general Meeting.

8. QUORUM

The quorum required for any meetings of the committee of the Society shall be four (4) and the quorum required for any general meetings of the Society shall be 10 people whose subscriptions for the current year of the Society have been paid.

9. VOTING

(a) At any general meeting of the Society, each member who is present and has paid a subscription for the current year of the Society shall be entitled to one (1) vote in every motion. Voting shall be by show of hands or, if the chairperson or five (5) members so require, shall be by secret ballot.

10. FINANCIAL POWERS OF THE SOCIETY

To assist in achieving its objectives, the Society may -

10.1 Own, purchase, or otherwise acquire property to be utilised for the benefit of members of the Society and other persons within the district or otherwise to enhance or assist in achieving the objects of the Society.

10.2 Sell, lease, mortgage, charge or otherwise dispose of any of the property of the Society and to grant such rights and privileges thereover in such a manner as the Society may from time to time think necessary and proper.

10.3 Borrow monies by way of mortgage, bank overdraft, debentures or otherwise in such a manner and upon such terms and to give such security over all or any of the property of the Society as the Society shall think necessary and expedient.

11. POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY

The Committee shall have power and responsibility to carry out the objectives of the Society, including:

11.1 Receipt, control and investment of funds for the purposes of the Society.

11.2 The keeping of complete records of the Society's financial affairs, including bank accounts, with all cheques drawn on any accounts to be signed by two (2) of any three (3) members as appointed by the committee.

11.3 The entering into legally binding commitments in accordance with the Society's objects.

11.4 The taking of such steps which it considers expedient or necessary for the carrying out of the Society's affairs.

11.5 Payment of such accounts as are incurred by, for, or on behalf of the Society, which may be deemed normal operational expenses.

11.6 Payment in respect of the acquisition of property, only providing that such payment has been authorised by members of the Society at a general meeting.

12. ALTERATION TO THE RULES

12.1. Proposed alterations to the rules of the Society shall be notified to all members in writing not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting at which such alterations are to be voted upon.

12.2 Alterations to the rules of the Society shall require a majority of those present at a general meeting and entitled to vote.

13. COMMON SEAL

The Common Seal of the Society shall be in the custody of the Secretary and shall not be affixed to any document except by resolution of the committee and in the presence of the President or Vice President and Secretary of the Society.

14. SOCIETY YEAR

The year for the Society shall commence on the first day of April and terminate on the following thirty-first day of March.

15. REGISTERED OFFICE

The Society shall keep and maintain a registered office, the location of which shall be determined by resolution of the committee, or failing any such resolution being passed then at the residence of the President for the time being.

16. WINDING UP

In the event of the winding up or dissolution of the Society any surplus assets of the Society shall be distributed to such other charitable body or bodies in New Zealand whose objectives are similar to those of the Society, as decided at a general meeting of the Society to deal with matters relating to the winding up of the Society.

17. INDEMNITY

1. The members of all properly constituted committees in accordance with these rules, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Auditor, and other officers shall be indemnified by the Society in respect of all losses and expenses incurred by them in or about the discharge of their respective duties except such as happen from their own respective default.

2. No member of a properly constituted committee, auditor, secretary, treasurer or any other officer shall be liable for the act or omission of any other member, auditor, secretary, treasurer or other officer in respect of any loss or expense happening to the Society unless the same happened from his/her own default.