

THE MIDLAND WINE & SPIRIT ASSOCIATION
ESTABLISHED 1905
(incorporating East Midlands Wine & Spirit Merchants' Association)

RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION
(Revised 25.02.03)

1. This Association shall be called "The Midland Wine & Spirit Association" and shall include the counties of Warwick, Worcester, Stafford, Shropshire, Hereford and the northern part of Gloucestershire and such other places as the Council may from time to time approve.

NOTE: The words "incorporating East Midlands Wine & Spirit Merchants' Association" were added underneath the title in February 1999 following the disbandment of the East Midlands Wine & Spirit Merchants' Association.

OBJECTS

2. The furtherance of the interests of the Wine & Spirit Trade and the members engaged therein.
3. To promote social and friendly intercourse amongst the members of the Association.
4. To take such lawful steps as may from time to time appear necessary for the benefit of the Association or its members.

MEMBERSHIP

5. Members of the Association must be Wholesale and/or Retail Wine & Spirit Merchants carrying on the business in the Counties referred to in Rule One. The Council may from time to time approve for membership of the Association other firms and companies associated with the Wine and Spirit Trade, notwithstanding their not being Wholesale and/or Retail Wine and Spirit Merchants. In this connection Rule One shall apply.
6. The election of new members shall take place at any Council or Annual or Ordinary General Meeting of the Association. Each candidate shall be proposed and then seconded by another member and his election decided by a majority vote of the members then present, notice having been given to the Secretary fourteen days previously.
7. The amount of Members Annual Subscriptions may, from time to time, be varied in General Meeting, but, until otherwise determined, this shall be an amount fixed by the Council per annum, payable in advance on 1st January each year.

COUNCIL

8. The affairs of the Association shall be in the hands of a Council comprising, unless and until otherwise determined:
 - a) No more than 15 elected members
 - b) The Council shall include the two immediate past Chairmen of the Association whilst actively connected with the trade. The above Council to include the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer
 - c) Secretary (who may be ex-officio)

Of whom five shall form a quorum

9. Two Council members shall retire annually by rotation and shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting. Nomination for the Council must be received by the Secretary fourteen days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.
10. In the event of a vacancy occurring amongst the elected members, the Council shall have the power to fill the vacancy for a period until the next ensuing Annual General Meeting, when the Councillor so appointed shall retire but shall be eligible for re-election at that Annual General Meeting.

STANDING RULES

11. Ordinary Meetings of the Association shall be held as deemed necessary by the Council. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the months of February or March at which the Balance Sheet of the previous year shall be presented up to the 31st December and the Officers and Council elected.
12. Extraordinary General Meetings may be summoned by order of the Council, or by a request signed by any 6 members, for the transaction of special business: but no question shall be entertained at such meetings unless seven days notice of it shall have been given in the Circular convening the meeting.
13. Any member wishing to withdraw from the Association shall give notice to the Secretary in writing of his intention to retire and, in default of his doing so before January 1st, shall be liable to pay his subscription due in advance on that day.
14. Each members shall be entitled to one vote only, which must be registered by a partner or (in the case of a Company) a Director or duly authorised representative.
15. Subscriptions being due on January 1st, no member shall be entitled to vote unless his subscription is paid. Any member whose subscription is three months in arrears, ipso facto ceases to be a member of the Association.

16. No motion to add to, alter or amend these rules shall be considered except at a General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting of the members of the Association and unless the Secretary has received notice in writing of the proposed alteration, addition or amendment, and of which full particulars have been inserted in the notice calling such meeting of the members.

ASSOCIATION OF MEMBERS

17. If any member of the Association shall report to the Council any act of any member contrary to the interests of the Association, such matter shall be considered by the Council at the earliest opportunity, and if the Council thinks it desirable, the Secretary shall communicate with the member and ask for an explanation. In default of any explanation, or in the case it is not satisfactory, the Council shall have the power to remove the name of such member from the books, by a vote of two thirds of its Council members present at the meeting, provided that the member so reported and the member making the report shall be given notice in writing to attend the Council Meeting during the examination of the report and explanation.