

Cumann Gaelach na Ginéimhe
Geneva Irish Association
Association Irlandaise de Genève



STATUTES

(as amended by the Annual General Meeting of 10 May 2007)

STATUTES

1. Name:

An "Association" within the meaning of Art.60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code is hereby constituted. Its seat shall be at Geneva and its duration unlimited. The name of the Association shall be:

In Irish: "Cumann Gaelach na Ginéimhe"

In English: "The Geneva Irish Association"

In French: "Association Irlandaise de Genève"

2. Objects:

The objects of the Association shall be:

- To provide a focal point in Geneva for all who are Irish or Friends of Ireland.
- To promote Irish social and cultural activities.
- To further understanding between Ireland and our host country – Switzerland.

3. Activities:

The Association shall support and participate in such activities as are intended to further its objects. Such activities may include Irish dancing, Irish language studies, music and singing, literature, drama, films, travel groups, lectures and discussion groups. Activities other than those listed and which are consistent with the Association's objects may also be undertaken, subject to the approval of the Committee.

4.1 Membership:

Open to all persons who are Irish or friends of Ireland, and shall be by annual subscription. The Membership year shall be the normal calendar year (i.e. 1 January to 31 December).

Article 4.1 Revised 10 May 2007

4.2 Associate Membership:

All persons related to a Member and living under the same roof shall be deemed Associate Members, and shall not be required to pay a subscription. Associate Members over the age of 18 years may become Members, and thus acquire voting rights on payment of a reduced annual subscription equal to half of the normal rate.

4.3 Honorary Membership:

A General Meeting of the Association may nominate Honorary Members, who are not required to pay a subscription.

4.4 Country Membership:

Open to all persons who are Irish or friends of Ireland and who reside outside the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud and Departments of Ain and Haute-Savoie. Such membership shall be by a reduced annual subscription.

5. Subscription:

The funds of the Association shall be provided by annual subscription from its Members and by such other funds as may be received for the purposes of the Association. The amount of the annual subscription shall be decided by a General Meeting of the Association and the subscription shall normally fall due on 1 January. The financial year shall run from 1 April to 31 March. Only paid-up Members and Honorary Members shall have the right to vote at any meeting of the Association.

Revised 10 May 2007

5.1 No Member may commit the Association's funds or incur any expenditure on behalf of the Association without the prior approval of the Committee.

6. Organs:

The organs of the Association shall be the Annual General Meeting and the Committee.

7. The General Meeting:

A General Meeting of the Members of the Association shall be held annually, but not later than 15 May of each year. The principal function of the Annual General Meeting shall be:

- To consider for approval the activities of the Association during the previous year and its statement of accounts for that year.
- To elect a Committee and Auditors for the current year.
- To consider any sponsored resolutions or other business laid before it.

Notices of motion may be sent in by any two paid-up Members to reach the Secretary not less than fourteen days before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall have the right to call an Extraordinary General Meeting on its own initiative or when so requested in writing by not less than one fifth of the Membership of the Association.

Paid-up Members of the Association shall have the right to vote by proxy on any and all motions submitted for consideration to the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM).

Such proxy votes must be in writing and in the format circulated by the Committee and must reach the President or Secretary of the Association not later than 48 hours prior to the holding of the AGM/EGM in question.

A quorum of a General Meeting of the Association shall consist of one quarter, rounded up, of the total paid-up Membership, including proxy votes. Decisions of a General Meeting shall be taken by a simple majority of Members present and voting.

Article 7 Revised 23 June 2000

8. The Committee:

The management of the Association shall be vested in a Committee consisting of four officers of the Association (who shall be a President, Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer) and not more than four ordinary members. In the event of a tied vote in the Committee, the President, or the Vice-President in the President's absence, shall have the casting vote; four members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. The Committee may at its discretion set up sub-Committees. All decisions by such sub-Committees shall be subject to the approval of the Committee.

Article 8 Revised 23 June 2000

9. Election of the Committee:

The President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Association and the other Committee members shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting by a show of hands or, if requested by a Member, by secret ballot. The Committee shall elect a Vice-President from among its members. All Officers and other Committee members shall retire annually but may offer themselves for re-election. They may not continuously serve on the Committee for more than four consecutive terms. However, a Committee member who is elected President after three years service may serve two consecutive terms as President.

9.1 If necessary, the Committee shall have the right to nominate a replacement for any Officer or other Committee member who retires without completing the term of office. This nomination shall be effective only until the next Annual General Meeting. Candidates for election to any office of the Association may be nominated by any two paid-up Members of the Association provided that the nomination in writing reaches the Secretary at least fourteen days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

10. Auditors:

Two honorary auditors shall be appointed by the Annual General Meeting to serve for the following year.

11. Cessation of Membership:

Membership shall cease when a Member:

- Resigns from the Association.
- Fails to pay the annual subscription within three months of the preceding Annual General Meeting.

12. The Association shall be committed vis-à-vis third parties by the signature of two persons, namely the President or Vice-President and one other member of the Committee. No one may claim to represent the Association without the explicit authorisation of the Committee.

13. Liability:

The Association shall not be liable for accidents occurring to Members or non-Members during the course or as a result of its activities.

14. Dissolution:

The Association may be dissolved only by a decision of a two-thirds majority of Members present at a General Meeting of the Association specially convened for that purpose. In the event of dissolution of the Association such funds and property as remain after settlement of all just debts shall be disposed of in accordance with the decision of the General Meeting which votes the dissolution of the Association.

15. Amendment of the Statutes:

These Statutes may be amended by a decision of a general Meeting of the Association taken by a two-thirds majority of Members present and voting.

16. Adoption:

These Statutes were adopted by a founding meeting held on 27 September 1975 and the Annual General Meeting held on 4 February 1976, and amended by the Annual General Meetings held on 24 April 1981, 29 April 1983, 25 April 1986, 1 May 1987, 28 April 1989, 26 April 1996; Extraordinary General Meeting of 23 June 2000; and Annual General Meeting of 10 May 2007.

Article 16 Revised 10 May 2007