

PROPOSED MATERIAL CHANGES TO THE RULES OF THE GSV

As at 14-8-13

Para No. in New Rules	Para No. in Old Rules	Change
2	The Statement of Purposes document	In accordance with the legislation, the new rules combine both the GSV's Purposes and Rules which previously were in separate documents. Internal administrative functions covered elsewhere have been removed from the list of Purposes. Otherwise, minor wording changes reflect changes in technology and update the scope of the GSV's current and projected activities.
8	3.1	A minimum age of 18 has been applied to membership. This is to protect the GSV legally and obviate the need for parents/guardians.
9(7)	3.12	The category of 'Student Member' is replaced by 'Youth Member' to allow more flexibility in eligibility criteria and marketing.
Various	3.12	All categories of member will now be entitled to vote.
12 and 14	3.13 to 3.20	The old rules have nothing about "rights of membership". These are now in the new rules, closely aligned to the Model Rules issued by the Government. As it can take weeks for new members to be approved by Council, new rule 12(3) allows the GSV to grant certain access rights as soon as an applicant has paid.
17	4.3	A reduction from 3 months to 1 month in the subscription arrears time after which a member shall be debarred from Council, nominating candidates and voting.
Division 2	7	In accordance with the legislation, Disciplinary Action has been formalised. Council now must appoint a Disciplinary Committee to consider alleged misconduct by Members and decide on the outcome, within the specific options laid out in the Consumer Affairs' Model Rules. The latter also details an appeal process. The overall impact is not greatly different from the GSV's current Rules regarding expulsion or suspension of members.
37		Remote participation in meetings is permissible by use of appropriate technology.
48 to 51		The duties of councillors and office bearers are detailed.
53 (2)(b)	20.2(b)	Council nominations due 35 days before AGM instead of 60 days.
59(1)	25.1	Council must meet at least 4 times annually, instead of 6 times. This change is consistent with the new model rules, but it is envisaged that 10 meetings annually will continue.
61		Urgent but straightforward decisions of Council may, at the President's request, be made by email vote, as long as they are recorded in the next Council meeting minutes.
63(2)	25.5	A quorum for Council meetings is a majority of Council members holding office. Previously a quorum was defined as 8 councillors.
71(2)(b)	27.5	Government audit requirements have changed and now depend on the size of the organization. Thus the new GSV rule refers to audits "if required" under the Act.
75	28	Email or other electronic means is added as an option for the serving of notices to members and for members to communicate with the GSV.
76	5.2 and 27.7	Members are presently entitled to inspect the register of members, but in accordance with the new legislation, the rules are amended to permit members to inspect and obtain a copy of all records of the GSV, subject to confidential, personal, employment commercial or legal matters or where to do so may be prejudicial to the GSV.