

Contents

Introduction	1
MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY	2
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES.....	3
GOVERNANCE	5
FINANCE	10
AFFILIATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS	10
GROUPS.....	10
RECOGNISED ORGANISATIONS.....	11
AMENDMENTS to THE RULES.....	11

Introduction

The Society of Agriculture “Society” is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation “CIO” and is registered with the Charity Commission. As part of the registration a Constitution was constructed, the core legal document that established the charity and set out the fundamental framework for how it operates. Copies are available from the Society’s office.

In summary the Constitution deals with:

- Name, principal office, charitable purpose, powers, application of income and property, benefits and payments to charity trustees, conflicts
- Liability of members to contribute to the assets of the CIO if it is wound up – there are none
- Membership of the CIO, members’ decisions, general meetings of members
- Charity Trustees, Officers of the CIO
- Saving provisions, execution of documents, registers, minutes, accounting records
- Disputes, amendments, voluntary winding up or dissolution

The Constitution also speak about Rules (clause 25):

“The charity trustees may from time to time make such reasonable and proper Rules as they may deem necessary or expedient for the proper conduct and management of the CIO, but such Rules must not be inconsistent with any provision of this constitution. Copies of any such Rules currently in force must be made available to any member of the CIO on request.”

The Rules are more detailed, practical policies developed by the trustees to help run the charity on a day-to-day basis. This document is the Society of Agriculture Rules “Rules”.

As a reminder to Members, the Society of Agriculture’s charitable purposes are

“to advance the education of the public in the subject of agricultural management and operation by such charitable means as the trustees in their discretion think fit, particularly but not exclusively by:

- (a) Maintaining and improving the standards and practice of agricultural management and operation
- (b) Promoting all aspects of Agricultural Management and operation, especially in the United Kingdom
- (c) Encouraging the study of Agricultural Management and operation

“Agricultural management and operation” includes but is not limited to all aspects of the science, production, conservation, amenity, economics and art of managing, marketing, consulting about and otherwise supporting the management and operation of agriculture and related rural businesses, their products and services.”

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY

Categories of Members “Members”

1. The Society of Agriculture shall have the following membership grades:

- (a) Fellow (FSAg) - Recognised leaders in agricultural consultancy, education, management, operation and related industries who have made significant contributions to advancing standards, promoting knowledge, or improving practice in the UK and beyond.

Note: Any Member who achieves Advisor (ASAg) grade or Practitioner (PSAg) and is also awarded Fellow (FSAg) will carry through their route membership grade. For example: FPSAg or FASAg.

- (b) Advisor (ASAg) - Established advisors and consultants with over 3 years of practice in advising, consulting, or supporting rural and agricultural businesses and related industries applying technical knowledge to raise professional standards.
- (c) Practitioner (PSAg) - Professionals who meet defined standards of qualifications and experience in agricultural management, agricultural operations, or related industries. Typically engaged in delivering management, operational, or professional services within agriculture and related sectors, with a recognised level of professional standing.
- (d) Member (MSAg) - Individuals engaged in agriculture, or land-based business operations, or related industries who are developing their experience and do not yet qualify for Practitioner or Advisor grades. Membership at this level is also open to those who wish to support the aims and objectives of the Society without necessarily seeking professional recognition or career progression.
- (e) Student Member (SSAg) - Individuals actively enrolled in a course of education related to agricultural consultancy, management, operation, related industries, science, conservation, environment or rural business operations.

Admission Criteria

2. The admission criteria is as follows:

- (a) Membership is open to individuals aged 16 or over studying or engaged in the operation, management, consultancy and related professions of agriculture.
- (b) Admission is subject to applicants meeting educational and professional experience requirements as defined from time to time by the Council.
- (c) The Council reserves the right to approve or reject membership applications based on set criteria.
- (d) The process for membership approval of all grades of membership will be established and amended as required from time to time by the Council.
- (e) Applications for Advisor (ASAg) must be accompanied by evidence of Professional Indemnity Insurance cover.

Member Responsibilities

3. Member responsibilities include:

- (a) Members shall uphold the Society of Agriculture Code of Professional Conduct.
- (b) Advisor (ASAg) and Practitioner (PSAg) applications including Fellow Advisor (FASAg) and Fellow Practitioner (FPSAg) must participate in Continuing Professional Development (CPD) as determined from time to time by the Council.
- (c) Members must pay annual subscriptions as determined by the Council.
- (d) Advisor (ASAg) including Fellow Advisors (FASAg) must maintain Professional Indemnity (PI) insurance.

- (e) Members who are temporarily away from work due to ill health, maternity or paternity leave, redundancy, or other exceptional personal circumstances may apply for a concessionary rate on their membership subscription:
- (i) The concessionary rate will provide a 50% reduction on the Member's standard subscription fee.
 - (ii) Eligibility is subject to application and approval by the Council and must be supported by relevant documentation.
 - (iii) Members will retain their existing membership grade and associated rights and responsibilities during this period.
 - (iv) The concessionary rate may be granted for a period of up to 12 months and can be extended upon review and reapplication.

Termination of Membership

4. Membership of the Society comes to an end if:
- (a) The Member dies; or
 - (b) The Member resigns in writing by post or email; or
 - (c) The Member fails to pay membership fees within the prescribed period as determined by the Council; or
 - (d) There is a breach of professional conduct or failure to meet contractual obligations by the Member as determined by the Council.

Communication with Members

5. In relation to the use of electronic communications between the Society and its Members:
- (a) Any Member, by providing the Society with their email address or similar, is taken to have agreed to receive communications from the Society in electronic form at that address, unless the Member has indicated to the Society their unwillingness to receive such communications in that form.
 - (b) Any Member may communicate electronically to the Society with any address specified by the Society for the purpose.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Code of Professional Conduct

6. All Members of the Society agree to the following professional principles:
- (a) Fulfil the duty of Members as set out in the constitution and repeated here:
"It is the duty of each member of the Society to exercise their powers as a member of the Society in the way they decide in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the Society."
 - (b) Conduct themselves in a manner that earns the respect of the community and upholds the reputation and dignity of the Society and the profession.
 - (c) Maintain high standards of professional practice, conduct, and integrity.
 - (d) Comply with all applicable laws, including Health & Safety, Environmental, and Taxation regulations.
 - (e) Avoid knowingly engaging in any illegal or illicit activity.
 - (f) Demonstrate financial probity in all professional matters.
 - (g) Take reasonable steps to maintain and enhance their professional expertise and competence.
 - (h) Maintain strict confidentiality regarding business affairs and personal information of clients and not disclose such information to unauthorised parties.

Conflicts of Interest and Ethical Conduct

7. Adviser Members must not:
- (a) Engage in employment or financial relationships that compromise, or appear to compromise, their impartiality.
 - (b) Associate with individuals or bodies where such relationships may be prejudicial to a client, unless full disclosure is made.

8. Members must not:
- (a) Disclose the affairs of any client or customer to others for personal or third-party gain.
 - (b) Accept instructions where a conflict of interest exists or could reasonably be expected, unless:
 - (i) All clients involved have provided written consent.
 - (ii) Effective safeguards are in place to protect confidential information.
 - (c) Undertake work beyond their professional competence.
 - (d) Unprofessionally seek to obtain instructions from a client already represented by another Member without that Member's consent.
 - (e) Make unprofessional or misleading charges for services.

Disciplinary Procedures

9. Initiation of Complaints:
- (a) Complaints about a Member "Respondent" must be submitted in writing to the registered address or email of the Society.
 - (b) The Chair, or suitable nominee, will:
 - (i) Notify the Respondent of the complaint and provide all relevant documentation.
 - (i) Invite a written response within 21 days (with one extension of 21 days).
 - (ii) Attempt mediation if appropriate.
 - (iii) Conduct preliminary enquiries or seek expert advice as needed.

Disciplinary Committee Review

10. A Disciplinary Committee (minimum three voting Members, plus at least one non-voting technical member) will assess if there is a case to answer.
- (a) If no case is found, the complaint is closed and the Respondent is notified.
 - (b) If a case exists, both parties are notified, and a formal charge is issued with at least 21 days' notice before a disciplinary hearing.

Disciplinary Hearing: Disciplinary Committee

11. Composition of Disciplinary Committee:
- (a) Chaired by the Chair, or a suitable nominee.
 - (b) Includes at least four voting Members (quorum = five).
 - (c) May include a technical assessor (non-voting) for specialist input.
12. Hearing Process of Disciplinary Committee:
- (a) The Disciplinary Committee verifies attendance and the delivery of the charge.
 - (b) The charge is read and the Respondent is asked to admit or deny the facts.
 - (c) Evidence is presented and cross-examined.
 - (d) Both parties may address the Disciplinary Committee regarding the evidence and mitigation.
 - (e) The Committee deliberates privately to:
 - (i) Determine if the facts are proved.
 - (ii) Decide whether those facts constitute a breach of professional conduct. If so;
 - (iii) Consider any antecedents and mitigation.
 - (iv) Determine a sanction.
 - (f) The Disciplinary Committee issues their decision with reasons in writing.
13. Possible Sanctions:
- If a breach is confirmed, the Disciplinary Committee may resolve to:
- (a) Recommend to Council that the Respondent be removed from the Society.
 - (b) Downgrade their membership.
 - (c) Suspend privileges for a defined period.

- (d) Issue a formal reprimand.
- (e) Remove the Respondent from any Council, Committee, or appointed position.
- (f) Publish the outcome as deemed appropriate.

14. Sanctions must be approved by a two-thirds majority of Disciplinary Committee Members present (excluding involved parties).

15. Rights and Representation of the Respondent:

- (a) The Respondent may be legally represented or accompanied during the disciplinary hearing.
- (b) The Respondent and representative cannot be present during final deliberations or voting by Disciplinary Committee.

16. Appeals of the Respondent:

- (a) The Respondent may appeal a sanction within 21 days of being notified by petitioning the Council.
- (b) At a duly constituted meeting, the Council will consider whether the Respondent's sanction appeal should be upheld or rejected by considering any representations which the Respondent makes and the reasons given by the Disciplinary Committee for their decision.
- (c) The Council will allow the Respondent, or their representative, to make those representations in person at that meeting, if the Respondent so chooses.
- (d) The Council will:
 - (i) Have the authority to increase, decrease, remove or uphold the sanction.
 - (ii) Issue a final, binding decision on the sanction.
- (e) The Council will reach a decision within 28 days of the petitioning by the Respondent, notifying the Respondent and the Disciplinary Committee of the outcome.

17. Recommendation to remove Respondent Member from membership of the Society.

Before the Council take any decision to remove someone from membership they must:

- (a) Inform the Member of the reasons why it is proposed to remove them from membership;
- (b) Give the Member at least 21 clear days' notice in which to make representations to the Council as to why they should not be so removed;
- (c) At a duly constituted meeting of the Council, consider whether or not the Member should be removed from membership and trusteeship;
- (d) Consider at that meeting any representations which the Member makes as to why the Member should not be removed; and
- (e) Allow the Member, or the Member's representative, to make those representations in person at that meeting, if the Member so chooses.

18. The Council will make the final decision to remove a Member in private and its decision will be final.

GOVERNANCE

The Council (Board of Trustees)

19. The Council is the governing body responsible for policy, strategic direction, and oversight of the Society.

20. The Council shall consist of up to twelve Members (minimum of three) elected at the AGM who shall become charity trustees of the Society.

21. The Council can appoint Members on to Council, but they can only serve up to the next AGM where they can stand for election to the Council, if willing and eligible.

22. As a minimum a Chair and Vice Chair for Council will be appointed by Members at an AGM. If a Chair or Vice Chair should resign or die during the term of office Council is permitted to appoint from Council members a Chair and Vice Chair, but they can only serve up to the next AGM where they can stand for election, if willing and eligible.
23. The Chair and Vice Chair shall normally have previously served on Council. The Council may exceptionally at its decision nominate for election the Chair and Vice Chair to a Member who has not previously served on Council.

Powers of the Council

24. The Council shall:

- (a) Formulate policies and strategic direction for the Society.
- (b) Approve codes of professional conduct, guidance notes, and policy position.
- (c) Regulation of Members of the Society.
 - (i) Approve the rules governing membership and professional conduct.
 - (ii) Oversee disciplinary processes and sanctions for Members who breach professional standards.
 - (iii) Determine criteria for entry, qualification, and continuing professional development (CPD).
- (d) Oversight of Executive Committee
 - (i) Appoint and oversee the Executive Committee and senior officers.
 - (ii) Delegate responsibilities while retaining the right to review, amend, or revoke decisions.
- (e) Approval of Financial Matters
 - (i) Approve the annual budget and financial reports.
 - (ii) Determine Member subscriptions and fees.
 - (iii) Authorise major expenditures or financial commitments.
 - (iv) Control expenditure.
- (f) Appointment Powers
 - (i) Appoint committees as needed to support the Society's objectives.
 - (ii) Appoint and fix the remuneration of the Secretariat and other officers appointed by the Council.
- (g) Governance and Constitutional Matters
 - (i) Propose and approve changes to the rules or constitution of the Society.
 - (ii) Approve the creation or dissolution of all Groups.
- (h) External Representation
 - (i) Approve the Society's official positions and representations on policy matters affecting Members.
 - (ii) Authorise alliances or partnerships with other professional bodies, government agencies, educational institutions, and industry stakeholders.
- (i) Examinations and Education
 - (i) Oversee the development and standards of all training programmes offered by the Society.
 - (ii) Agree and set policies on education, training, and accreditation.

Meetings of the Council

25. Meetings of the Council will be as per the following:

- (a) The Council shall meet at least three times annually.
- (b) On request in writing of the Chair or three members of the Council the Secretary/Director or a member of Council shall, at any time, summon a meeting of the Council by notice served upon the members of the Council.
- (c) The Chair, or in their absence the Vice Chair shall be the chair of the meeting of the Council. If none of them be present within 10 minutes of the meeting, the members present of the Council present shall choose one to be chair of the meeting.
- (d) Meetings may be held in person or virtually, provided all members can participate effectively.
- (e) Minutes shall be recorded for each meeting and made available to members in a timely manner.
- (f) Decisions shall be made by majority vote, with the Chair having a casting vote in the event of a tie.
- (g) Council members must attend at least two meetings of Council annually. Unless an acceptable reason for non-attendance is provided or risk being dismissed.

- (h) If Council members are absent without the permission of the Council from all their meetings held within a period of six months and the Council resolve that their office be vacated.

26. Quorum for Council Meetings

- (a) A quorum for meetings of the Council shall consist of one-third of its current members or not fewer than four members, whichever is greater.

27. Conflict of Interest Declaration

- (a) All Council and Committee members must declare any personal or financial interest in matters under discussion and shall abstain from voting or influencing decisions where a conflict of interest arises.
- (b) A register of interests shall be maintained by the Secretariat and updated annually.

Officers

28. The Officers in the Society shall be:

- Chair (Trustee)
- Vice Chair (Trustee)
- Treasurer
- Director/Secretary
- Such other officers as the Council may from time to time decide

29. The Officers shall be nominated by Council and at least three weeks before the AGM in each year, the Council shall notify each Member entitled to vote a list of the nominees to be elected at the AGM.

30. Seven days before the AGM any Member may nominate any other duly qualified persons, having obtained their consent to serve if elected, for election to any of the above vacancies. If nominations for any vacancy shall exceed the number of vacancies, there shall be a ballot at the AGM.

31. As already set out in 28. the Council will have a Chair and Vice Chair. The Council may (but do not have to) appoint an individual to be the Treasurer of the Society and an individual as Director. This may, but does not have to, be an individual currently serving on Council.

32. The duties and responsibilities of any Treasurer and Director/Secretary shall be specified by Council and may be altered by Council at any time.

Director/Secretariat

33. Instead of a Secretary, the Council may appoint an individual or organisation to provide the service of a Secretariat to the Society. The Council may nominate an individual or an individual representing an organisation that provides the service of a Secretariat to the Society to the position of Director.

34. The Director shall:

- (a) Report to the Council and ensures the delivery of the Society's purposes, including membership engagement, policy development, and financial oversight.
- (b) The Director is not a Trustee of the Society and a non-voting member of any committee.

Terms of Office for Trustees and Officers

35. Council Members (Trustees) shall serve a term of three years and may be re-elected for up to two further consecutive terms, for a maximum total of three terms (nine years). After serving three consecutive terms, a Trustee must stand down for a minimum of three years before being eligible for reappointment.

36. The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected to serve, normally for two years, at the AGM. (The timeline would normally be Vice Chair, then Chair for two years, then Vice Chair.) They shall not serve in the same office for more than three years.
37. The Treasurer shall serve for a term of three years and may be reappointed, subject to the maximum service limits for Trustees (if applicable) as set out in 35. above.
38. The term for a Treasurer and Director, if a non-Member, will be set by Council.
39. Committee Chairs shall serve a term of three years, with eligibility for reappointment by the Council.
40. The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected to serve, normally for two years, at an AGM of Members. They shall not serve in the same office for more than three years in any consecutive period of six years.

Patron and President

41. Patron: The Society reserves the right to invite someone to become Patron of the Society. The Council if it so wishes will determine the role of such an appointment, as and when it sees fit to do so.
42. Honorary President "President": The Society reserves the right to invite someone to become Honorary President of the Society. The Council if it so wishes will determine the role of such an appointment, as and when it sees fit to do so.
43. Patron or Honorary President shall be elected every year but there will be no preset term of office unless Council sets one.

Committees

44. Committees shall be established by the Council to support the delivery of specific functions, tasks, or areas of expertise relevant to the objectives of the Society. Each Committee shall:
 - (a) Operate under terms of reference approved by the Council and shall report to Council.
 - (b) Be chaired by the relevant elected Trustee from Council.
 - (c) The composition of each Committee shall be determined by the Council and may include Members of the organisation and other individuals with relevant expertise.

Powers of Committees

45. Committees shall:
 - (a) Carry out tasks, functions, and responsibilities delegated to them by the Council.
 - (b) Provide expert advice, recommendations, and reports on matters within their remit.
 - (c) Support the development of policies, procedures, or initiatives relevant to their area of focus.
 - (d) Propose Members for appointment to the Committee, subject to approval by Council.
 - (e) Exercise such additional powers or responsibilities as may be assigned to them from time to time by the Council.

Quorum for Committee Meetings

46. A quorum for Committee meetings shall consist of at least three members, including the Committee Chair or their appointed nominee.

Meetings of Committees

47. Committees shall adopt the following:
 - (a) Meet as required to carry out their responsibilities, with a minimum of two meetings per calendar year.
 - (b) Meetings may be held in person or virtually, provided all members can participate effectively.

- (c) Decisions shall be made by majority vote, with the Chair of the Committee having a casting vote in the event of a tie.
- (d) Committee members must attend at least half of the Committee's scheduled meetings annually.
- (e) Minutes of decisions shall be recorded for each meeting and submitted to the Council or Executive Committee, as appropriate.

The Executive Committee

48. The Executive Committee is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Society, implementing the policies set by the Council and overseeing the administration, finance, membership, and professional activities of the organisation.
49. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following persons:
- (i) Chair
 - (ii) Vice-Chair
 - (iii) Treasurer
 - (iv) Director (or Secretary)

Powers of the Executive Committee

50. The Executive Committee shall:
- (a) Authorise routine expenditures and contracts supervise the work of the Secretariat.
 - (b) Recommend Members to serve on Committees.
 - (c) Delegate specific tasks or responsibilities to Committees or staff/sub-contractors where appropriate.
 - (d) Exercising any other powers as may be delegated by the Council from time to time.
51. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall follow Rule 47. other that as a minimum they will meet quarterly per calendar year.

Advisory Board Committee

52. Council shall establish an Advisory Board Committee and it shall consist of any former Chair of the former BIAC or IAgRM and of the Society. The Advisory Board Committee meet with a purpose of advising the current Chair of Council as required.

Data Protection, Confidentiality and Record Retention

53. The Director/Secretary shall ensure that all data held by the Society, including Member records and correspondence, is processed in accordance with applicable data protection laws and regulations.
54. Personal and confidential information shall only be accessed by authorised individuals and used for legitimate organisational purposes.
55. The following will apply to record retention:
- (a) Meeting minutes, decisions, and policy documents shall be retained for a minimum of seven years.
 - (b) Membership records and disciplinary case files shall be retained securely for no fewer than seven years after a Member's resignation or removal.
 - (c) Financial and audit records shall be retained for a minimum of seven years, in compliance with charity accounting requirements.
 - (d) Backup of documents and data will be held in accordance with insurance policy requirements.

FINANCE

56. Income & Expenditure

- (a) All income shall be applied solely to the promotion of the Society's purposes.
- (b) No part of the funds shall be distributed as profit to Members.
- (c) Members who are not charity trustees are entitled to be reimbursed from the Society for reasonable and proper remuneration for any goods or services supplied to the Society.
- (d) Members are entitled to be reimbursed from the Society for reasonable expenses properly incurred when acting on behalf of the Society.
- (e) The Council may from time to time set procedures and limits on expenditure allowable under the above two sub clauses (c) and (d).

57. Accounts & Audit

- (a) The Finance Committee shall oversee the maintenance of proper financial records.
- (b) Annual externally audited accounts shall be presented at the General Meeting, ensuring transparency and financial integrity. Internal audits may be conducted periodically, but an external audit remains mandatory each year.
- (c) Copies of audited accounts and any internal audits are available to Members on request at any time.

AFFILIATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

58. The Society may affiliate, collaborate, or enter partnerships with relevant professional bodies, educational institutions, and industry stakeholders as the Council see fit to do.

GROUPS

Categories of Groups "Groups"

59. The Society will encourage and accept applications from groups aligned to the purposes of the Society. Two types of groups have been identified; Affiliated Groups and Associated Groups.

Affiliated Groups

60. Affiliated Groups are formally recognised extensions of the Society within specific geographical regions or interests. In order to be or become an Affiliated Group of the Society the group need to fulfil the following conditions:
- (a) Submit an application to the Society.
 - (b) The group must have three members who are also paid Members of the Society. If the number of Members drops below three the group will automatically lose its Affiliated Group status and become an Associated Group
 - (c) Applications will be approved or rejected by Council.
 - (d) The name of the group must include 'Society of Agriculture' (sub-text acceptable).
 - (e) All publicity and promotional materials for Affiliated Group events must display the official logo.
 - (f) Each Affiliated Group must establish and maintain an active committee, consisting of at least a Chair and Treasurer.
 - (g) A dedicated bank account must be maintained for Affiliated Group operations with copies of accounts sent to the Society by the 1st May annually.
 - (h) Affiliated Groups must organise and deliver annual events that align with and support the purposes of the Society.
61. In addition to the above application conditions, the groups are required to meet the following conditions:
- (a) Attendees at Affiliated Group events should be encouraged to apply for membership of the Society

- (b) Affiliated Groups are entitled to receive a rebate sum from the Society, equating to 10% of all membership subscription income received from Members registered to the Group. Rebates will be paid annually by 1st May, based on Members' subscription income received between 1st January and 31st March of the same calendar year.
- (c) Affiliated Groups will be provided with a shared page on the Society website to publish events, and relevant information.
- (d) Affiliated Groups will be provided with a dedicated email address for use for Group communications and administration if they wish.
- (e) Affiliated Groups will benefit from insurance cover for meetings and events including farm walks.
- (f) On application to the Society, Affiliated Groups will be supplied with a list of national Members who indicate their registrations with Affiliated Groups.
- (g) Affiliated Groups are required to provide the Society with the group mailing list by 1st May annually (or on request), including names, company names (if applicable) and email addresses. Individuals who are not Society Members will be added to the Society's general distribution list to receive information directly from the Society.
- (h) Affiliated Groups may only give funds out themselves if the purpose is aligned with the charitable purposes of the Society.

Associated Groups

62. Associated Groups are groups whose activities support the Society's objectives but may not meet all the criteria of an Affiliated Group. They are required to:
- (a) Organise and deliver annual events that reflect and promote the purposes of the Society.
 - (b) Submit details of planned events to the Society for promotion.

RECOGNISED ORGANISATIONS

63. Recognised Organisation "Recos" are organisations, institutions, or professional bodies that support or complement the purposes of the Society but are not Members of the Society.
- (a) To qualify, applicants must:
 - (i) be a professional body or organisation operating within the agricultural industry or a related sector (not individuals).
 - (ii) maintain effective governance structures and uphold professional integrity.
 - (iii) demonstrate accountability through progressive membership pathways (e.g., tiered levels) and an established CPD framework.
 - (iv) commit to ethical practice and continuing professional development for their members.
 - (b) Engagement with the Society may include collaboration on policy or professional advancement, participation in joint initiatives, and the sharing of best practice as determined by the Council.
 - (c) Admission is subject to approval by the Council and formalised through an initial five year contractual agreement. The Council may amend the approval process as required and retains discretion to accept or reject applications.
 - (d) Recos status is subject to periodic review to confirm ongoing compliance with obligations and alignment with the charitable purposes of the Society.

AMENDMENTS to THE RULES

64. Amendments to the Rules require approval by two-thirds of the voting Members at a General Meeting.

For the purposes of these Rules, the term 'Council' refers to the 'Charity Trustees' as defined in the Constitution of the Society of Agriculture.