

MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

for

Newcastle Trades Hall Council

Rule 2 - Constitution

The Council shall consist of delegates from recognised Trade Unions, branches of a Trade Union or Sub Branch of a Trade Union within the area covered by the Council and comply with the requirements of * **Rules 4 & 17**. The area to be covered by Council shall be those areas bounded by the local government areas of Newcastle, Port Stephens, Maitland, Cessnock and Lake Macquarie.

* **Rule 4 - Government**

- 4.1 *The majority vote of credentialed delegates present voting at any properly constituted general meeting of the Council shall be the highest authority.*
- 4.2 *Delegates to Council shall be properly and constitutionally elected by affiliated unions and have full speaking and voting rights.*
- 4.3 *The following officers to be known as the Executive Committee and shall execute the will of Council viz: President, Vice Presidents (3), Secretary/Treasurer (hereinafter referred to as Secretary), two Trustees and one representative from each Industry Group.*

Provided that if the groups are not functioning in accordance with the Rules of Council, the Council shall elect from delegates to the Council, not less than four and not more than ten of those representatives, who together with the officers previously mentioned, shall constitute the Executive Committee of Council.

One of those ten positions shall be an affirmative action position.

The number of such persons to be elected shall be decided by the majority of delegates present and voting at each Annual General Meeting. Delegates of affiliated unions only may nominate for positions on the Executive Committee.

- 4.4 *Group representatives upon the Executive Committee shall be elected in March of each year. The election shall be conducted in accordance with the Industrial Relations Act 1991 and Regulations and provided the Industrial Registrar consents, the election shall take place at a special Annual Meeting of industry groups called for the purpose. Thirty days notice will be given in writing to all affiliated unions of each group voting shall be by secret ballot.*
- 4.5 *Any delegates to Council shall be subject to recall upon majority decision of the respective Industry Group at a meeting convened for that purpose. Fourteen days notice shall be given in writing to the affiliated unions of the Group*

concerned, setting out time, place, date and purpose of such a meeting.

**** Rule 17 - Admission to Membership***

- 17.1 Unions or Branches of Unions which cover separate industries desiring to affiliate with the Council shall make application in writing, giving the particulars of membership etc.*
- 17.2 Any Union or Branch of Union, which is eligible to become a member of the Council, is entitled subject to payment of any amount properly payable in relation to membership:-*
- (a) to be admitted as a member of the Council; and*
- (b) to remain a member so long as it complies with the rules of the Council.*
- 17.3 Any Union, or Branch of Union may resign from the Council on giving one month's notice in writing, signed by the President and Secretary, and delivered to the Secretary of the Council and on payment on any subscriptions or other sums in the nature of fines, levies, penalties or calls payable which are outstanding for the period of six month's prior to the date of the notice of resignation. Notwithstanding the above a resignation is informed in writing by the Council that the resignation has been accepted.*
- 17.4 Any union, Branch of a Union seeking affiliation to Council and being admitted, shall be entitled to elect delegates as indicated in Clause 19. Such delegates may attend Council and vote upon matters, with the exception of the annual election of officers, for which a minimum qualifying period of three(3) months affiliation to Council shall be necessary.*
- 17.5 The Council may appoint to honorary life membership any officer or delegate of the Council after service of fifteen years as an officer or delegate, providing that there shall not be more than one such life member at any 'time on the Council.*
- 17.6 Any Honorary Life Member so appointed shall exercise the rights of a delegate except the right to vote.*