

Rules:- Domiciliary Midwives Society
of New Zealand

1. Name: Domiciliary Midwives Society of New Zealand (Incorporated).
2. Aims and Objects:

The objects for which the Society is established are:-

 - a) To enable members to communicate efficiently, speak out effectively as one body, and manage their own affairs.
 - b) To oppose and correct misrepresentation and misunderstanding of the philosophy of home birth and the policies of domiciliary midwives.
 - c) To protect the reputation and interests of all domiciliary midwives by seeking to obtain membership from all midwives doing home births.
3. Membership:
 - a) Full membership will be restricted to midwives registered in domiciliary practice, and carrying out home births.
 - b) Affiliated membership will be available to midwives registered in domiciliary practice but not currently practising.
 - c) Both levels of membership will pay the same fee, but voting will be restricted to full members only.
 - d) Application for membership will be made in writing to the Society.
 - e) A member may terminate her membership by sending a letter of resignation to the secretary.
 - f)
 - i) The membership of any member may be suspended or terminated by the Society if a member brings the Society into disrepute by either personal or professional misconduct.
 - ii) The decision to suspend or terminate a membership will be made by the elected officers, and a hearing given, if requested by the member involved, at the next scheduled meeting.
 - iii) Notice of suspension or termination and a hearing will be given in writing.
4. Meetings:
 - a) Advertisements of meetings shall be by letter or circular.
 - b) Full and affiliated members only may attend meetings.
 - c) Representation by midwives from 3 areas will be a quorum for Committee meetings.
 - d) Representation by midwives from 5 areas will be a quorum for the Annual General Meeting.
 - e)
 - i) Appointment of officers of the Society, i.e. Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer will be by nomination in writing.
 - ii) The mode of voting will be by ballot at the A.G.M.
 - iii) One weeks notice will be required for postal nominations.
 - f) In the event of a tie, a casting vote will be made by the Chairperson, or in her absence, the Secretary.

5. Receipts
- a) Amounts received from subscription or donations will be deposited in the Society's cheque or savings account.
 - b) Payments may be authorized by the Treasurer or another of the elected officers. Both signatures must appear on the appropriate form held at the Bank.
 - c) Subscriptions will be collected annually.

6. Alterations to the Rules:

Alteration, addition or rescission to these rules may be made in the following manner:-

- a) Written notice specifying the proposed alteration, addition or rescission will be sent to the Secretary not later than three weeks prior to the A.G.M.
- b) Upon receipt of such notice, the Secretary shall send a copy of it to every member.
- c) The proposed alteration, addition or rescission, along with amendments offered from the floor, will be considered at the A.G.M. which may accept or reject the same.

7. Control & Use of the Common Seal:

The common seal of the Society shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary and shall, after a resolution of the committee in that behalf, be affixed to an instrument, deed or document in the presence of the Chairperson and the Secretary who shall subscribe their names and offices thereto as witnesses.

8. Disposition of Property in Event of Winding Up of Society:

If, upon the winding up of the Society pursuant to Section 24 of the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property, it shall be divided up between the members of the Society who were fully paid up members at the time of winding up.