

CONSTITUTION OF LIONS COMMUNITY SERVICE FOUNDATION (SINGAPORE)

1.Name

This Society shall be known as the “**Lions Community Service Foundation** (Singapore)” hereinafter referred to as the “Foundation”.

2.Place of Business

Its place of business shall be at 487 Bedok South Avenue 2 Singapore 469316 or such other address as may subsequently be decided upon by the Board of Directors and approved by the Registrar of Societies. The Foundation shall carry out its activities only in places and premises which have the prior written approval from the relevant authorities, where necessary.

3. Objects

3.1 Its objects are:

- a) To raise funds accumulated as an endowment fund the income of which shall be applied in furtherance of the following objects.
- b) To support any relief work in any manner whatsoever which the Foundation may in its absolute discretion deem suitable including but not limited to the relief of poverty, suffering and distress and the provision of financial assistance to any person or groups of persons on any humanitarian grounds.
- c) To relieve human suffering and improvement of human living conditions and standards by the treatment, prevention, alleviation and combating of sickness and disease and in particular by providing for or contributing towards medical research and teaching, and by the provision of medical surgical and educational facilities and services of all kinds.

3.2 In furtherance of its objects the Foundation may do all such other things that are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects, and provided that nothing shall be done solely for profit or for commercial reasons, in particular:

- a) To raise funds for the support and continued management by Lions of the Lions Home For The Elders, a home registered under the Societies Act (Cap 311).
- b) To raise funds for the support and continued management of Lions Befrienders Service Association an association registered under the Societies Act (Cap 311).
- c) To support any relief work and community service projects carried out by the Lions Clubs in furtherance of their club charter objectives.
- d) To receive and administer funds raised by Lions Clubs and employing same for the relief of disaster and calamity or for the carrying out of humanitarian or educational or other service activities which in the opinion of the Board of Directors and Trustees warrant such actions.
- e) Take such actions as may from time to time be deemed expedient for the purpose of procuring contributions to the funds of the Foundation in the shape of donations, annual subscriptions, fees, legacies, gifts.

f) Accept and receive any gift of any property, whether real or immovable or personal or movable or pecuniary and whether or not subject to any trust for any one or more of the objects of the Foundation.

g) Purchase, lease, hire or otherwise acquire any property and any rights or privileges which the Foundation may think necessary or convenient for the promotion of its objects.

h) Let, lease or hire the whole or any part of its property or properties on such terms as the Board of Directors may decide.

i) Sell, mortgage, charge or dispose off or turn to account all or any of the properties or assets as may be thought expedient provided always that nothing done is for commercial reasons solely for profit.

j) Appoint and remunerate any officers, agents, administrators or managers to carry out the regular duties of the Foundation.

4. Membership and Qualification Rights

4.1 Membership shall consist of:

(a) All duly chartered Lions Clubs operating and registered under the Societies Act (Cap 311) and each club shall be represented by its president; OR

(b) The incumbent District Governor and past District Governors whose club is a member of the Foundation.

4.2 The president may appoint a representative to take his place.

4.3 The representative must be an active member and a member in good standing of a Lions Club which must also be in good standing.

4.4 The membership of any Lions Club which has been declared either status quo or not of good standing shall automatically be suspended and the representative shall not be admitted into any Foundation meetings.

4.5 The application for a Charter by a Lions Club shall serve as application for membership of the Foundation. The application for a Charter shall be made on the prescribed form and be submitted for the approval of the District Governor. Upon obtaining the Charter from Lions Clubs International, the Lions Club shall be informed of its admission as a member of the Foundation.

4.6 A copy of the Constitution shall be furnished to every approved member upon being admitted into membership.

5. Entrance Fees, Subscriptions and Other Dues

5.1 There shall be no entrance fee payable for all members.

5.2 The annual subscription payable in advance is to be paid in July of each year and shall be determined by the Board of Directors and be up to \$10.00 per Lion member in the club's membership list as on 30th June of that year. The Board of Directors may with the concurrence of the District Cabinet levy an additional annual contribution which may be varied or vetoed by a 2/3 majority at an Annual General Meeting.

6. Supreme Authority & General Meetings

6.1 The supreme authority of the Foundation is vested in a General Meeting of the members presided over by the Chairman.

6.2 An Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than September each year.

6.3 At other times, an Extraordinary General Meeting must be called by the Chairman on the request in writing of not less than 25% of the total voting membership or 15 voting members whichever is the lesser and may be called at anytime by order of the Board. The notice in writing shall be given to the Secretary setting forth the business that is to be transacted. The Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened within two (2) months from receiving this request to convene the Extraordinary General Meeting.

6.4 If the Board does not within two (2) months after the date of the receipt of the written request proceed to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting, the members who requested for the Extraordinary General Meeting may convene the Extraordinary General Meeting by giving ten (10) days' notice to voting members setting forth the business to be transacted and simultaneously posting the agenda on the Foundation's notice board.

6.5 At least six (6) weeks' notice shall be given of an Annual General Meeting and at least ten (10) days' notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting. Notice of meeting stating the date, time and place of meeting shall be sent by the Secretary to all voting members. The particulars of the agenda shall be posted on the Foundation's notice board four (4) days in advance of the meeting.

6.6 Voting by proxy shall not be allowed at any General Meeting. Lions clubs shall be represented at General Meetings of the Foundation by duly authorized delegates who are members in good standing of the Club. Each Lions Club in good standing with the District and Lions Clubs International shall be represented by one delegate for each ten (10) members or major fraction thereof, who have enrolled for at least one year and a day as shown by the latest available records of the international office. The major fraction thereof referred to in the clause shall be five (5) or more members. All delegates and all Past District Governors whose club is a member of the Foundation shall have one (1) vote each.

6.7 The following agenda shall be considered at the Annual General Meeting.

- a) The previous financial year's accounts and Treasurer's report
- b) Annual report of the Board of Directors
- c) Election of office-bearers where applicable
- d) Appointment of professional auditors
- e) Any other business placed by any member giving at least seven (7) days' notice prior to the meeting to the Secretary.

6.8 At least one quarter of the total voting membership or Thirty (30) voting members present at the General Meeting shall form a quorum.

6.9 In the event of there being no quorum at the commencement of an Annual General Meeting, the meeting shall be adjourned for half an hour and should the number then present be insufficient to form a quorum, those present shall be considered a quorum, but the meeting shall have no power to amend any provisions of the Constitution.

6.10 In the event of there being no quorum at the time fixed for an Extraordinary

General Meeting, the notice convening the meeting shall be deemed lapsed and no action shall be taken on the purpose of the Extraordinary General Meeting.

7. Management & Board of Directors

7.1 The administration of the Foundation shall be entrusted to a Board of Directors consisting of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and six (6) other directors. In addition,

- (a) the elected officers of District 308-A1, currently the District Governor and Immediate Past District Governor, and Vice District Governors,
- (b) the Chairman of the Lions home for the Elders and of the Lions Befrienders Service Association,
- (c) and another representative appointed by their respective Boards, shall also serve as full members of the Board during their term of their respective office.

Board members should be either Singapore Citizens or Singapore Permanent Residents unless prior written approval has been obtained from the Registrar of Societies otherwise.

7.2 The Board of Directors may co-opt two (2) persons of good standing from the community who are not members of any Lions Clubs to serve on the Board of Directors for a period of two (2) years at each co-option. Such co-opted directors shall have no voting rights and may serve in any capacity on the Board.

7.3 Election of Board of Directors shall be restricted to only duly authorized delegates of members. For every ten (10) Lions members of the Lions Club or a major portion thereof the club shall be entitled to one (1) vote. All past District Governors whose club is a member of the Foundation shall have one (1) vote each.

7.4 No Lions Club shall have more than one (1) elected member on the Board of Directors. For the avoidance of doubt, this stipulation does not include Board members listed in Clause 7.1 (a) and (b).

The term of office of the Board is two (2) years. All directors who have attended a majority of the meeting of the Board of Directors, except the Treasurer, may be re-elected to the same post for a consecutive term.

7.5 Nominations shall be called by the Secretary six (6) weeks before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting. Voting shall be by secret ballot. The Board shall have power to make by-laws for the proper conduct of the elections

7.6 At the next Annual General Meeting following the election of the first Board of Directors the Vice-Chairman, Secretary and three (3) Directors shall retire from office but shall be eligible for re-election.

7.7 At its first meeting to be convened immediately after the Annual General Meeting the Board of Directors shall elect from amongst their members a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

7.8 A Board Meeting shall be held at least once every two (2) months after giving seven (7) days' notice to Board Members. The Chairman may call a Board Meeting at any time by giving five (5) days' notice. At least six (6) of the Board Members must be present for its proceedings to be valid.

7.9 Any member of the Board being absent from three (3) meetings consecutively without satisfactory explanations shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the Board and a successor may be co-opted by the Board to serve until the next Annual General Meeting. Any changes in the Board shall be notified to the

Registrar of Societies and the Commissioner of Charities within two (2) weeks of the change.

7.10 The duty of the Board is to organize and supervise the daily activities of the Foundation and for this purpose may appoint sub-committees or adhoc committees for specific functions. The Board may not act contrary to the expressed wishes of the General Meeting without prior reference to it and always remains subordinate to the General Meetings.

7.11 The Board shall operate under an approved annual budget which it submits to the General Meeting and has power to authorize expenditure within that limit.

8. Financial Authority of the Board of Directors

8.1 The Board of Directors has the power to authorize the disbursement of funds not exceeding the total levy collected for each fiscal year.

8.2 The Board of Directors has power to authorize the disbursement of up to 75% of the interest and income earned from funds raised provided it has no power to authorize any disbursement aggregating more than \$500,000.00 for any fiscal year. Any disbursement beyond the said total aggregate sum shall be subject to prior approval of the membership at a General Meeting.

8.3 The Board of Directors shall not approve the disbursement of more than \$50,000.00 for any one project without the prior approval of the Board of Trustees.

8.4 For emergency relief the Chairman together with the District Governor may jointly approve the disbursement of up to \$10,000.00 at any one time.

9. Patrons, Fellows & Sponsors

9.1 The Board of Directors shall have power to make by-laws for the award and conferment of any title on persons or Lions to honour, acknowledge and appreciate their contribution to the Foundation whether in money, kind or otherwise.

9.2 The Board of Directors shall have power to make by-laws to receive, accept and administer gifts, donations, legacies and bequest with appropriate due honour and acknowledgment accorded to donors or members of the family of any donor.

10. Duties of Office-Bearers

10.1 The Chairman shall chair all General & Board meetings. He shall also represent the Foundation in its dealings with outside persons, organisations or authorities.

10.2 The Vice-Chairman shall assist the Chairman and deputise for him in his absence.

10.3 The Secretary shall keep all records, except financial, of the Foundation and shall be responsible for their correctness. He shall keep minutes of the General & Board meetings. He shall maintain an up-to-date Register of Members at all times.

10.4 The Treasurer shall keep all funds and collect and disburse all monies on behalf of the Foundation and shall keep an account of all monetary transactions and shall be responsible for their correctness. He is authorized to expend up to

\$500.00 per month for petty expenses on behalf of the Foundation. He will not keep more than \$1,000.00 in the form of cash and money in excess of this will be deposited in a bank to be named by the Board. Cheques etc for withdrawals from the bank will be signed by the Treasurer and either the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman or the Secretary.

10.5 Ordinary Board Members shall assist in the general administration of the Foundation and perform duties assigned by the Board from time to time.

11. Audit & Financial Year

11.1 A firm of certified public accountants shall be appointed as auditors at each Annual General Meeting for a term of one (1) year and shall be eligible for reappointment.

11.2 The Auditors:

(a) Will be required to audit each year's accounts and present a report upon them to the Annual General Meeting.

(b) May be required by the Chairman to audit the Foundation's accounts for any period within his tenure of office at any date and make a report to the Board.

11.3 The financial year shall be 1st July to 30 June.

12. Trustees

12.1 The Board of Trustees of the Foundation shall:

- (a) Not be more than four and not less than two in number.
- (b) Be elected by a General Meeting of members.

12.2 The Board of Trustees shall elect a chairman from amongst themselves.

12.3 The Board of Trustees shall meet at least twice a year to review the financial status of the Foundation, the policy set by the Board of Directors and generally make recommendation to the Board of Directors and the general membership for the better and more efficient running of the Foundation.

12.4 Immovable properties of the Foundation shall be vested in trustees subject to a declaration of trust. The trustees shall not effect any sale or mortgage any property unless with the prior approval of the General Meeting.

12.5 The Trustees shall hold office for a term of two (2) years and shall be eligible for re-election.

.6 The office of the trustee shall be vacated:

a) If the trustee dies or becomes lunatic or of unsound mind

b) If he is absent from the Republic of Singapore for a period of more than one (1) year.

c) If he is guilty of misconduct of such a kind as to render it undesirable that he continues as a trustee.

d) if he submits notice of resignation from his trusteeship.

12.7 Notice of any proposal to remove a trustee from his trusteeship must be given in writing at least two (2) weeks before the General Meeting at which the decision is to be taken. The result of such General Meeting shall then be notified to the Registrar of Societies and the Commissioner of Charities.

12.8 Where the assets of the Foundation are made up of fixed deposits in banks, bonds, financial instruments equity or such like the Board of Directors has the discretion of registering them in the name of the Foundation.

12.9 The Registrar of Societies and the Commissioner of Charities shall be notified of the address of each immovable properties, name of each Custodian Trustee and any subsequent changes.

13. Prohibition

13.1 Gambling of any kind, excluding the promotion or conduct of a private lottery which has been permitted under the Private Lotteries Act Cap 250, is forbidden on the Society's premises. The introduction of materials for gambling or drug taking and of bad characters into the premises is prohibited.

13.2 The funds of the Foundation shall not be used to pay the fines of members who have been convicted in court of law.

13.3 The Foundation shall not engage in any trade union activity as defined in any written law relating to trade unions for the time being in force in Singapore.

13.4 The Foundation shall not attempt to restrict or interfere with trade or make directly or indirectly any recommendation to, any arrangement with its members which has the purpose or is likely to have the effect of fixing or controlling the price or any discount, allowance or rebate relating to any goods or service which adversely affect consumer interests.

13.5 The Foundation shall not indulge in any political activity or allow its funds and/or premises to be used for political purposes.

13.6 The Foundation shall not hold any lottery, whether confined to its members or not, in the name of the Foundation or its office-bearers, Committee or members unless with the prior approval of the relevant authorities.

13.7 The Foundation shall not raise funds from the public for whatever purposes, without the prior approval in writing of the Head, Licensing Division, Singapore Police Force and other relevant authorities.

14. Amendments

14.1 No alteration or addition/deletion to this Constitution shall be made except at a general meeting and with the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members present at the General Meeting, and they shall not come in force without the prior sanction of the Registrar of Societies and the Commissioner of Charities.

15. Interpretation

15.1 In the event of any question or matter pertaining to day-to-day administration which is not expressly provided for in this Constitution, the Board of Directors shall have power to use their own discretion. The decision of the Board of Directors shall be final unless it is reversed at General Meeting of members.

16. Disputes

In the event of any dispute arising amongst members, they shall attempt to resolve the matter at an Extraordinary General Meeting in accordance with this Constitution. Should the members fail to resolve the matter, they may bring the matter to a court of law for settlement.

17 Dissolution

17.1 The Foundation shall not be dissolved, except with the consent of not less than three-fifth (3/5) of the total voting membership of the Foundation expressed at a General Meeting convened specially for that purpose.

17.2 In the event of the Foundation being dissolved as provided above, all legal liabilities of the Foundation shall be fully discharged and all remaining funds shall be donated to any approved charity or charities with similar objectives in Singapore which is or are registered under the Charities Act as the General Meeting of members may determine.

17.3 A Certificate of Dissolution shall be given within seven (7) days of the dissolution to the Registrar of Societies and the Commissioner of Charities.

BY-LAWS

1. Designated Donations / Funds

- .1 Donations of funds received by the Foundation which is specifically designated by the donors(s) for a specific purpose or beneficiary shall be set aside and accounted for separately from the general fund of the Foundation. The amount standing to the credit of each of those designated funds at the start and end of each financial period shall be reported in the annual financial report of the Board of Directors to members of the Foundation.
- .2 The mode of operation for the transfer or disbursement of fund from the Foundation to each beneficiary of the designated funds shall be set out in the Standard Operating Procedure ("SOP") approved by the management of the respective beneficiary of the designated fund with the concurrence of the Foundation Board to be administered by the persons so authorized by the SOP on an ongoing or day to day basis.
- .3 The Board shall appoint a committee comprising not less than 3 members of which at least 2 shall be from the Board to administer each designated fund other than the designated funds for the Lions Home and Lions Befrienders. One of the 2 Board members on the committee shall serve as the Chairman of the committee. Each committee shall administer the designated fund in accordance with the SOP established through discussion with the beneficiary and approved by the Foundation Board.

2. Awards

2.1 Four Award Schemes will recognize individual club members, Lions clubs and corporations and the public. The Awards given will be:

- I. For individual Club Members,
 - (a) 'LCSF Fellow' – Vest pin Award given at 5 levels, minimum of \$1,000 each donation with subsequent donations awarded a visible recognition per donation per year
 - (b) 'LCSF Patron' – Plaque Award given at \$10,000 or above, cumulative.
- II. For Lions Clubs

- (a) Banner Patched for a minimum \$3,000 one time payment. For subsequent cumulative donations of \$10,000 up to \$90,000, a Chevron ward will be added.
- (b) 'LCSF Clubs Honour Roll' – once a club hits or exceeds \$100,000, the club will be placed on the honour roll.

III. For Corporations,

- (a) Award given for all donations under \$100,000 at 5 levels, non-cumulative.
- (b) 'LCSF Honour Roll' – with any one-time donation of \$100,000 and above, name of corporation placed on honour roll.

IV. For Public,

- (a) Award given for all donations under \$100,000 non-cumulative
- (b) 'LCSF Honour Roll' – with a one-time donation of \$100,000 and above.

3. Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the Lions Befrienders Service Association designated fund

3.1 To incorporate the SOP for Lions Befrienders

4. Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the Singapore Lions Education Fund

4.1 SOP for the Lions Education Fund:

- a) Payment to the national university of Singapore (NUS) and Singapore Management University (SMU) for Singapore Lions Clubs Study Award respectively, will be made according to the terms of the existing Agreements.
- b) All other disbursements from the Lions Education Fund must be approved by the LCSF Board.
- c) The Financial Control Procedures (FCP) will be specified by the LCSF Board.