

CHESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Mid-Cheshire Branch

Rule of Governance

Date of adoption and definition of terms

1. These rules were adopted for the governance of the Mid-Cheshire Branch (hereinafter referred to as "the Branch") of the Cheshire Beekeepers Association (hereinafter referred to as CBKA or "the Association") at an Annual General Meeting on 9th January 2023.

Relation to CBKA Constitution

2. Since the membership of the Branch are first and foremost members of the Cheshire Beekeepers Association, the activities of the Branch are governed by the Constitution of the CBKA: if there is any conflict between these Rules and the CBKA Constitution, the County Associations Constitution shall have precedence.

Aims of the Branch

3. In accordance with Rule 2 of the Constitution of the CBKA, the purpose of this branch is to carry out the work of the CBKA in the Mid-Cheshire area – to promote and further the craft of Beekeeping.

Accountability, property ownership, funds

4. In accordance with Rule 3b of the Constitution of the CBKA, this Branch shall be fully accountable to the Committee of the Association and any property owned by the Branch is ultimately the property of the CBKA and held by the Branch for the benefit of all members of the association.
5. In accordance with Rule 3c of the Constitution of the CBKA, the Branch may raise such funds as it thinks fit, in any manner it may think fit, to further the aims of the Association.

Membership of the Branch

6. Membership of the Branch can only be held by members of the CBKA (see Rule 3d of the CBKA Constitution). The Members of the Branch shall be deemed to be those who have paid the requisite fee for membership of the CBKA for the period in question and who have stated Mid-Cheshire as the Branch they wish to associate

with. In this matter the Honorary Secretary of the CBKA shall have the final say, and the lists published by him/her shall be used as membership lists for the Branch.

7. All membership of CBKA of any category and of any or no Branch-allegiance are entitled to attend meetings organized by the Branch on the same basis as “Mid-Cheshire” members.
8. Only those members who are **Registered** or **Partner** Members of **CBKA** and **have given Mid-Cheshire** as their Branch are entitled to serve on the Branch Committee or vote at Annual or Extraordinary General Meetings of the Branch.
9. **County, Junior and Associate** Members of the CBKA listed as members of the Mid-Cheshire Branch as defined above are entitled to exhibit in the Branch Members Show Classes but are not entitled to vote at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting of the Branch.
10. **“Friends”** of the Cheshire Beekeepers listed as members of the Mid-Cheshire Branch as defined above are entitled to exhibit in the non-honey Class of the Branch Members Show but are not entitled to vote at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting of the Branch.

Management Committee

11. The management of the affairs of the Branch shall be vested in a Committee consisting of the officers and at least three elected Committee Members. The Committee may fill any vacancy in the officers and members of the Committee by co-option pending confirmation at the next Annual General Meeting. The Committee may co-opt further members at any time, if this is deemed conducive to the good governance of the Branch.
12. A Committee meeting shall be deemed to be quorate when at least half of all committee members, including at least one Officer, are present, providing that 14 days’ notice of such meeting shall have been given to all members of the Committee.
13. As stated in Rule 3c of the CBKA, the financial year-end shall be the 31st December.
14. An Annual General Meeting of the Branch Members, who shall be given at least 14 days’ notice of the meeting, shall be held in January each year.
15. The Committee shall present a report of the previous year’s work and the annual accounts (after having been checked by an auditor) to each Annual General Meeting for approval.
16. The Committee shall forward the above accounts and report to the Treasurer/Secretary of the CBKA to reach them no later than 31st January.

AGM, Committee & Officers

17. At the Annual General Meeting the Branch members shall elect, from their number, to hold office until the next AGM, a Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer and at least three elected Committee Members and any other officers that the Meeting decides

are necessary for the running of the Branch. These committee members shall be deemed to take up their posts immediately on election. The Chairman and the Treasurer of the Branch shall act, ex officio, as representatives of the Branch on the CBKA Committee.

18. The roles of Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary are deemed to be the Officer roles. No one person may hold more than one of the Officer roles at the same time. Any monetary signature roles on behalf of the MCBK branch cannot be held by related members of the family.
19. Nominations, by the proposer, seconder and nominee, shall be sent to the Branch Secretary (MCBK Secretary) to arrive not less than 7 days before the Annual General Meeting. For the sake of good governance of the Branch, the Committee may nominate members at the Annual General Meeting for appointment as Officers and Committee members without being subject to the above rule of notice.
20. Any propositions to be put forward at the Annual General Meeting must be received by the Secretary at least fourteen days before the date of the meeting, together with supporting statements.

Extraordinary General Meeting, alteration of Rules, Winding-up of Branch

21. Any ten registered or partner members of the branch may demand an Extraordinary General Meeting and the Committee may call one at any time. A clearly worded proposal, to be tabled at the meeting, must be submitted to the Secretary along with the demand for an EGM. A minimum of fourteen days' notice of such a meeting is to be given to Members by post, email or telephone, together with the proposal to be debated and supporting notes where applicable.
22. A resolution for the alteration of these Rules shall be received by the Secretary at least 28 days before the General Meeting at which the resolution is to be brought forward. The Notice calling the Meeting shall include details of such resolution proposed. The resolution must receive the assent of not less than two thirds of the members present and voting at the General Meeting for it to be passed.
23. A proposition for the winding up of the Branch can be put to a General Meeting, but to be effective, a copy of the Proposition must have been signed by ten members and sent to the Secretary 28 days before the meeting at which it is to be proposed and a copy must be sent 14 days before the meeting to all Branch Members and the proposition must be carried at the meeting by a three quarters majority of those present and voting.